

MEETING SUMMARY



Climate Protection Action Committee
Monthly Appointee Meeting (*HYBRID*)
Friday, February 3, 2023
9 a.m.



Present in person: Robert Anderson, Mary Pat Baldauf, Samantha Yager.

Present via Zoom: Barbara Bowers, Jason Czerwinski, Crystal Garcia, Nina Grey, Kappy Hubbard, Audrey Jones, Brenda Krebs, Gretchen Lambert, Lisa Muzekari, Evan Patrohay, Bob Petrulis, Priscilla Preston, Clint Shealy, Peggy Smedley, Lori Ziolkowski

Chairman Bob Petrulis called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Although there was not a quorum, Assistant City Manager Clint Shealy had a 9 a.m. meeting to attend and wanted to give his update early:

- Clint confirmed that CPAC is scheduled to present at City Council's February 14 work session, which starts at 3 p.m. at the City Hall. Chairman Bob Petrulis will have ten minutes for the presentation, and Clint will need his slides the week of February 6.
- Clint announced that the contract for the Dominion LED street light replacement project has been executed. He also announced that the City had its second meeting of Dominion's yearlong Strategic Energy Management program in late January. He has also heard that there is new information from Danny Kassis on the procurement discussion and he hopes to get with him soon.

Moving on, there was no update on the CPAC appointee process. Mary Pat will contact Ashley to confirm that City Council is still set to handle this in February.

Mary Pat reported that the February 2023 issue of Speaking Sustainability was distributed on February 1. She is working to expand the calendar section further out to give advance notice of standing CPAC meetings to provide readers with more time to plan their attendance and/or participation.

She also reported that the "webinar group" met recently to discuss upcoming webinars for the year ahead. Plans are underway to reformat the webinars to make them more appealing to the general public, including shortening them and having them more often.

She then moved to C-LEAP and LEED for Cities updates. The City is working hard to complete the LEED for Cities application for the first submission, planning for a mid-February submission. The LEED for Cities certification team will report Initial findings to the city within five weeks. The City can use the feedback to rework the application before final submission, and should receive final results within five weeks.

In mid-January, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) presented further analysis on building stock in Columbia and included the recommendations for the top five dwelling types to target with the program. Their next step is to apply 10 energy efficiency and retrofit packages on the dwelling types to analyze overall energy savings. Mary Pat will send a PDF of the presentation with the minutes. *(Please note that this is a work in progress and is not yet ready for widespread distribution. NREL will work with staff and the C-LEAP team for the rest of the year on program development in this pilot technical assistance program.)*

Bob reminded members that the working meeting was scheduled for Friday, February 17 at 9 a.m. and suggested we make that an advisory meeting. The group supported that idea, and Mary Pat will invite City staff and advisory members. *(EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to scheduling conflicts for CPAC members, this meeting was canceled.)*

STAFF UPDATES

- Mary Pat had nothing to add from her earlier reports.
- Clint had given his report at the beginning of the meeting.
- Samantha said that recycling prices are fluctuating for no apparent reason. She added that leaf season is officially over, and she was looking forward to looking at some new equipment to update the fleet to continue to provide excellent service.

Dr. Z. announced that she would be working with Sustain SC to create a new course at the university on "Carbon Management". The hope is that this course will cover Scope 1, 2, and 3 greenhouse gas emissions and mechanisms to reduce those via new types of energy generation or carbon offsets.

Lisa noted that yesterday there was a groundbreaking for a new lithium ion battery storage manufacturing plant in Colleton County, a \$280 million investment. They will manufacture the battery storage systems that will go in solar panels.

Speaking of new technologies, Dr. Z. said that former CPAC appointee Deb Stirling recently briefed the White House Science and Technology Committee on a new project she is working on about mega grids. The project involves the possibility of transmitting power with DC (which is what renewable will generate) vs. AC transmission time could be extended, and it could possibly happen under rail lines. It might also help electrify the rail line over time.

The next regular meeting will be on Friday March 3 at 9 a.m. Again, it will be hybrid with both in-person attendees and participation via Zoom.

Because there was no official quorum, there did not have to be a quorum for adjournment, but the meeting was over at 9:45 a.m.