



SUMMARY

Climate Protection Action Committee
Monthly Appointee Meeting
Friday, January 3, 2024
9:00 a.m.
Hybrid meeting: In-person & Zoom

Appointees Present: Josey Cline, Joyce Rose Harris, Gretchen Lambert, Benjamin Marosites, Bob Petrulis, Julie Seel, Dave Voyles, Dennis Wiehl.

Guests and Staff: Robert Anderson, Mary Pat Baldauf, Laura Anne Hunt, Brenda Krebs, Priscilla Preston, Tameria Warren, Samantha Yager.

Chairman Bob Petrulis called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

The approval of December minutes was deferred because not everyone had a copy. Mary Pat will send those minutes out by the end of the day.

There was no review of Ready for 100 v2.0 as Clint was not present.

Moving through CPAC priorities, the group then discussed officer elections. Via the By-Laws, new officers are elected in January and take office in February. The committee had been hoping new appointees would be in place now and could participate in elections, but that hasn't happened. Gretchen noted that new members would probably take a while to get up to speed, and recommended that officers be elected today. She noted that CPAC needs to be preparing members to take leadership roles. Dennis Wiehl nominated Gretchen to continue as Secretary and Bob as Chairman. David Voyles nominated Dennis Wiehl to continue as vice chairman and thanked everyone for their service. A vote was taken and the officers were elected unanimously.

Bob then opened the floor for working subcommittee reports. Dennis reported that the Smart Growth Subcommittee met on December 13, and that Planning and Development Services staff attended and reported on their activities. Dennis said that the subcommittee will be taking their information and laying it over a table of the top 100 best practices from the EPA's Smart Growth booklets. Planning and Development Services is already doing a number of things outlined in these booklets, and that will help CPAC support and report on these items.

David Voyles reported for the Urban Farming subcommittee. He recently brought forth a list of ideas internally, though the committee hasn't yet discussed them. He hopes to present an idea to CPAC soon. Julie Seel noted that David suggested getting a project going in one area, and she thought they could do more. David agreed, saying that he likes to start the bar low.

Gretchen reported for the By Laws Subcommittee, saying that she needed to get the most current Boards and Commissions Handbook to be sure CPAC is following all of the items laid out in said handbook. Mary Pat will contact City staff to find out if the booklet has been revised and if so, will get a copy for Gretchen.

Mary Pat updated the group on the Youth Climate Action grants. Final reports were due on December 31, and all but two groups have submitted one. She'll be following up with the remaining groups this week. There are some final housekeeping chores to be done with the program before closing it out, including some reports for Bloomberg. She reminded everyone that the City had been approved for the second round of \$100,000 and is working now toward that program. She also reminded everyone of the January 14 Showcase, which will be held in the lobby of City Hall from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Mary Pat then updated the group on the December Speaking Sustainability stats, which included an open rate of 52.3% (industry average is 36.11%) and click rate of 12.4%. The most viewed link was "*Tiny airborne particles within air pollution could be a silent killer.*" Gretchen mentioned the dashboard in the January newsletter was awesome, to which Mary Pat agreed wholeheartedly and thanked Bob for his work on the graphic.

Jory Fleming provided updates on the state and regional CPRG grants. He also mentioned the possibility of having a community-engagement event on Earth Day, the week of April 22 with participation from the Central Midlands Council of Government, CPAC and local environmental non-profits. After a quick but energetic brainstorming session, Mary Pat agreed to contact the Columbia Museum of Art to see if Boyd Plaza would be available on Saturday, April 26 so the event could be held in conjunction with Soda City. Both Julie Seel and Joyce Rose Harris volunteered to assist with the event.

In staff updates, Samantha reported that Solid Waste is in the midst of leaf season while also picking up an estimated 25% more garbage as a result of the holidays.

Robert reported that things had slowed down during the holidays, but are picking back up quickly.

Mary Pat reported that she has been busy closing out Bloomberg Round One and preparing for Bloomberg Round Two.

In new business/old business, Bob reported that he is expecting a report from David Skinner regarding CPAC's support of the Columbia choral society event, which was discussed at length in December. He asked if there were any other items for the good of the cause, and hearing none, adjourned the meeting at 10 a.m.