

Juneau Commission on Sustainability
December 6, 2023
Minutes

A. Zoom Meeting Called to order 12:03 pm.

B. Land Acknowledgement presented by Gretchen Keiser

C. Members present: Jessie Barker, Gretchen Keiser, Laura Achee, Nick Waldo, Duff Mitchell, Steve Behnke. Others: Lisa Daugherty, Clay Good. CBJ staff: Dianna Robinson, Ashley Heimberger.

D. Agenda. Approved, with addition of item 7a: 2nd year funding for CBJ Energy/GHG Inventory study.

E. Minutes. Approved for 11/1/23 JCOS regular meeting (as presented) and for 11/29/23 Energy Committee meeting with addition of unknown “Pat’s” last name on p. 4 in Energy Committee minutes.

F. Public Participation. Clay Good (REAP) provided background/benefits of OBF and asked JCOS to support OBF. He would like to work with JCOS in drafting of an ordinance that permits OBF/OBR in CBJ code.

G. Agenda Topics

3. Duff Mitchell briefed JCOS on Alaska Energy Security Task Force recommendations, with emphasis on those relating to renewable energy and beneficial electrification in coastal communities -- [JCOS AESTF Overview Presentation 12-6-23.pdf](#) (0.91 MB)

4. Steve Behnke presented the JCOS Energy Committee recommendations on Marine Passenger Fees (see 11/29/23 minutes). Mr Mitchell made a motion that the Energy Committee develop JCOS MPF comments and recommendations and submit by January 3, 2024. Seconded by Ms. Achee. After discussion, motion was approved with no objections.

5. Steve Behnke presented the JCOS Energy Committee recommendations on an approach to CIP (see 11/29/23 minutes). Ms. Robinson indicated that the draft staff CIP is expected to come together by end of January, available for public comment, and be presented to the Assembly PWFC in March. Ms. Keiser also identified a potential Zero Waste CIP - a project looking at the economic feasibility of various options for waste diversion as well as an incinerator. Ms. Robinson is talking to some consultants to get some rough cost estimates for this work. Ms. Keiser suggested that the Energy Committee and Solid Waste Committee work w/ staff to incorporate JCOS suggestions into CIP, and draft outline or submittal for the January 3, 2024 JCOS regular meeting.

6. Nick Waldo reported on the November 2, 2023 sustainability session on composting. It was successful, but had a somewhat different focus than expected. SRO at Valley Library, largely

because Juneau Composts! had mentioned the event and expressed concerns about a municipal composting facility competing with a private business.

Previously, in August, the JCOS Solid Waste committee had suggested to the Assembly PWFC that the city consider starting a procurement process for an operator sooner than later in order to give Juneau Composts! and other interested parties earlier certainty on how the municipal composting facility would proceed. The PWFC had not picked up on the JCOS recommendation. Questions at the Sustainability Session were mostly posed by loyal customers about what it would mean for Juneau Composts! Mr. Waldo indicated that some follow-up has occurred, and he asked whether we should raise our recommendation again, for new Assembly members, etc. Discussion with comments from Ms. Keiser, Mr. Behnke, and Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Waldo was encouraged to reach out to JCOS's Assembly Liaison (and new Assembly member) Ella Adkison. Ms. Keiser recommended that JCOS talk in more depth about the issues at the JCOS retreat in January.

7. JCOS Retreat is January 6, 12-3pm. Hybrid in-person and Zoom. Ms. Keiser will send an email, draft agenda, and ask members to email their suggested 2-3 issues/work tasks for 2024. There will be the nomination of JCOS officers for 2024.

7a. Mr. Mitchell made a motion that the JCOS Energy Committee be authorized to make a request to the Assembly PWFC that CBJ initiate a 2nd year of the Energy/GHG Inventory study. Ms. Achee seconded. Approved with no objections. Mr. Behnke will coordinate with staff to prepare request.

The remaining item H -- Clean Energy Financing -- was deferred to the January 3, 2024 JCOS regular meeting

K. Adjourned 1:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Behnke