

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2021, online and by phone.

Roll Call: Bill Welch, Kavi Chokshi, Kellie Jensen, Kersey Marion, Mark Buckley, Neil Baungard, Peter Grube, Rory Isbell, Serena Dietrich, Tess Gardner (alternate), Anne Birky (ex officio), Sasha Sulia (ex officio)

1. Introductions

The committee and ex officio members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of minutes from January 6, 2021 ECC meeting

Member Jensen moved to approve the January 6, 2021, Meeting Minutes. Member Chokshi seconded the motion the motion passed unanimously (9-0).

3. Public Comment

Patricia Bresnahan recommended that homebuilder companies get educated and perhaps have the city look into requiring a certain percentage of landscaping that includes native plants and low maintenance. Bresnahan suggested the City develop a water use awareness program for homeowners to help realize water is not free and is limited, limit the development of new golf courses and create a demonstration garden in the City for low water landscape and establish plants as part of an education program.

Anders Carlson, Co-founder of the Oregon Glacier Institute (OGI), discussed that the committee not just look at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and going carbon neutral but, also think about resiliency planning and water resources will become an issue for Bend if it is not already. Carlson said OGI would like to talk further about OGI's mission of monitoring glacier change in the Oregon Cascades and to look at how to best preserve and protect the water resource.

4. City and Council Overview

Eric King, City Manager, presented the following slides on a City and Council Overview:

- Core Services and Values
- Council Goals
- Council Goals 2019-2021
- Council Goals 2021-2023

Councilor Campbell wanted to make sure the committee understood that the clouds on the graphic are not in any way unimportant but they are just things that do not necessarily fall under our core services.

Member Welch asked how the Council could avoid getting out of sync with recommendations that the Environment and Climate Committee might be making since the budget is going to be set in June. King said the issues that are in the Climate Action Plan are part of Council Goals. King explained there will be some additional funding that will be provided in the organization to help advance some of the specific actions in the Climate Action Plan which will be involved in the budget development.

Member Buckley asked King for any advice for the committee to think about. King said if Council is assuming that they are in agreement with some of the strategies and actions that were developed, King would use the Environment and Climate Committee for some additional detail. King discussed wanting the City Council and City committees to be in alignment.

Cassie Lacy, Senior Management Analyst presented the following updates:

- ECC Data and Resources Folder – be used as an Information repository to exchange resources
- Public emails that go to committee members
 - Members discussed the following possible ideas
 - Whoever replies to the email, copy the Chair or Co-Chair to the email to make sure that there is a response and to keep track of things that are being discussed in case the committee needs to have a parking lot of items for agenda topics down the road
 - Track on a spreadsheet all members can see
 - A member could represent and respond to the emails and be the outreach representative internally for the committee – no added pressure on the Chair and Co-Chair
 - Need to be consistent
 - Have a process on reviewing recommendations or data sources they are providing
 - Have an ECC all email
 - Have a set time within the committee meetings to discuss, or at least to represent what members received by email

Member Chokshi asked if all emails being sent to the committee are part of the public record. Lacy said emails do not need to be stored and filed away anywhere, when it is in your email it is a part of the public record. Lacy said there is no process that needs to happen to make sure it is filed away anywhere.

Ian Leitheiser, Assistant City Attorney, said there three issues to think about, public records issues, inadvertent public meetings, and keeping in mind the distinction between communicating as an individual member of a committee. Leitheiser said the committee needs to come up with a protocol on how to respond to inputs. Leitheiser said if a member is asked their opinion on something, the member can engage with the public

and tell them what they think, as long as they are cognizant of making it clear that they may be expressing a personal opinion or personal view on something rather than something that the committee as a whole decided.

Lacy discussed setting up a meeting with Leitheiser to come up with ideas on how the committee can handle emails from the public.

5. Chair and Vice-Chair Elections

Member Jensen stated since this is new, maybe the committee should do self-nominations.

Member Baungard said compared to other committee Chair and Vice-chair roles, this is a slightly different role because the ECC is new. Baungard explained the Chair and Vice-Chair will end up working a lot together because there will be an additional workload at the beginning to get the committee off the ground.

Member Baungard shared he is excited about the opportunity to either jump into the Chair or Vice-chair role. Baungard said he has the capacity and is comfortable with a lot of tasks that were listed, including being a representative in speaking to Council.

Member Buckley said he would be good at some of the organization pieces, he has been on a lot of committees and boards and feels comfortable communicating. Buckley said he would be happy to be supportive in a different way as well.

Member Chokshi asked if the committee would be able to also have informal roles like Secretary or other roles that we can have that we create for further division of Labor. Lacy said that would be fine but recommended first picking the Chair and Vice-chair, to help give some structure to those discussions.

Member Grube said he is supportive of Members Baungard and Buckley but asked in the pursuit of equity inclusion, would there be a female member who would be interested.

Member Dietrich stated being interested in the roles but the time commitment is her biggest hesitancy and there is a lot on her plate. Dietrich said Member Baungard and Buckley would be perfect for the roles but she would make it a priority if it was something that people wanted.

Member Welch stated he would be willing to be involved to help advise, but does not want to be the Chair or Vice-Chair at this time.

Member Welch shared that one of his other committees has a small group that helps the Chair and the staff of the Council to come up with agendas and other business items to take some of the burdens off of them.

Member Jensen stated being in the same situation as Member Dietrich and has concerns with her ability from a time commitment perspective. Jensen is interested in both and excited to be part of this, in whatever capacity.

Member Marion said having a position filled by a woman would make sense for what the committee is trying to do. Marion said having a couple of additional roles makes sense so that the committee can still accomplish and spread out some of the workload.

Member Baunsgard expressed liking the structure of having the official roles and then having a subcommittee that can still meet and do some of the delegation getting the committee off the ground.

Mary Winters, City Attorney, said if it is called a subcommittee then under Oregon's Open Meetings Law, it becomes its own governing body subject to the open meetings law.

Member Chokshi asked if there is a lead person for some of the different focus areas and they worked one on one with the Chair and Vice-chair and if that was ok. Winters said that would be fine just do not call it a subcommittee.

Member Dietrich stated being interested more in the Vice-Chair role.

Member Jensen stated being interested in more of a lead perspective.

Member Buckley said he is willing to be in any of the roles including outside of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Member Chokshi asked if there was anyone else interested in running for the Chair and Vice-chair before everyone votes.

Member Welch moved to appoint Member Baunsgard as chair and Member Dietrich as Vice chair. Member Isbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (9-0).

6. CCAP Action Matrix

Lacy presented the Bend Community Climate Action Plan – Action Matrix.

The committee discussed the following:

- Missing information on the emissions reduction or to co-benefits and the matrix itself
- Concerns on the committee's desire to make a change in a timely fashion on what is voluntary versus what is regulatory versus what's incentivized
- Have a possible column on the progress of each
- What the committee's prioritization criteria would be for evaluating these things – get members feedback and make sure the committee has different experts of the group getting eyes on different actions that they have experienced
- The matrix is the key background information that would feed into the prioritization

- On the matrix to share information and ideas - members copy the first couple rows and input their own information and email to the Chair and Vice-chair – Chair and Vice-chair to consolidate all of that feedback into a single document that would be discussed at the next meeting
- Distinguish between what has been adopted as part of the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) - not limiting but making sure the committee differentiates between the two.

Member Grube asked if the committee has locked into these definitions and if the committee has the opportunity to change the category of the lever of action. Lacy stated this matrix was not included in the CCAP. Lacy said it is flexible and the committee can discuss how they are applied.

Member Welch said it would be good to have a column on where the project is at the moment. Lacy said this is a future external process so anything that requires the ECC initiation and direction would be something that has not started and anything that is either of the other categories is something that has started. Lacy stated being hesitant to say where the committee is now in this document.

Member Marion asked if this was something the committee could comment on before the next meeting, strictly talking about the level of priority. Lacy said the committee cannot comment back and forth and share thoughts with each other through this document.

Member Jensen asked if comments could be sent to the Chair and Vice-chair. Winters said the committee can provide comments to the staff. Winters said the problem with doing it to the chair and the vice-chairs is if they pass on to anyone else outside of a public meeting, which can be an issue under the meetings act. Winters said if it is just to the Chair and Vice-chair and they do not pass it on to anyone, and then you talk about it at the next meeting, which should be okay.

7. Discussion: ECC and CCAP Next Steps

Did not discuss due to time.

8. Agenda setting

Did not discuss due to time.

9. Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla M. Duddy
Deputy City Recorder