

The meeting of the Environment and Climate Committee (ECC) was called to order at 11:04 a.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2022, in the City Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, and online.

1. **Roll Call:** Bill Welch, Kavi Chokshi, Mark Buckley, Neil Baunsgard, Rory Isbell (virtual), Serena Dietrich (virtual), Sasha Sulia (ex officio, virtual)

Absent: Kellie Jensen (excused), Kersey Goodwin (excused), Peter Grube (excused), Anne Birky (ex officio, excused)

2. Approval of Minutes from 11/10/2022 ECC Meeting

Member Welch moved to approve the November 10, 2022 meeting minutes. Member Buckley seconded the motion. The motion passed (7-0).

3. Public Comment

No public comment was submitted.

4. Staff Updates

Cassie Lacy, Senior Management Analyst, provided the following updates:

- City Council had the first reading of the Home Energy Score (HES) at its December 7, 2022 meeting. Following deliberation, Council supported moving the program forward.
- Moving forward, committee stipends will be mailed rather than handed out in person at meetings.
- ECC recruitment update: Interviews were held December 8, with appointments being made at the December 21 Council meeting; new members are slated to begin in January.
- This was the final meeting for members Welch and Grube, whose terms on the ECC concluded on January 1, 2023.

5. Council Goal Input

Member Baunsgard explained a subgroup met before the December 8 meeting to look at the goals. Member Isbell gave an overview of the subgroup, which included members Dietrich, Chokshi, Jensen, and Isbell. Member Isbell presented a slide detailing the working group recommendations, which included the following:

- Update the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) to stay current with the latest information and best practices while also continuing to implement

projects from the existing CCAP. In order to do this, the City will need to invest new and additional resources into its climate program.

- Improve tracking and reporting on CCAP progress so the City and community can easily understand whether the climate goals are being met. This will also require additional resources to do this robustly and effectively.
- Leverage the resources provided by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to accelerate local impact by closely tracking the IRA implementation and promoting and developing energy efficiency programs enabled by the IRA.
- Implement the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) locally by updating relevant City plans and policies to reflect the new CFEC standards.
- Implement and resource the Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan, leveraging resources provided in the IIJA and the IRA to accelerate implementation.

There was discussion around whether to recommend declaring a climate emergency, CCAP updates, federal and state funding available for climate work, CFEC rules, transportation, the possibility of recommending additional staff capacity and asking for additional seats on the ECC, the Committee agreed to have Lacy edit the draft working group recommendation and bring it back in January.

6. Chair/Vice-Chair Elections Prep

Baungard gave a broad overview of the elections process and detailed the timeline. Elections will be held at the January 12, 2023 ECC meeting. Lacy shared the following slides:

- Duties of the Chair and Vice Chair
- Time Commitment
- Process

Member Dietrich provided additional insight into the roles and noted she was willing to step down from the vice-chair role if another member would like to take it on. Baungard added he still had the interest and capacity to lead but was open to sharing the role or letting someone else take the lead.

Member Chokshi expressed interest in the vice-chair role.

7. Updates

Councilor Campbell congratulated the ECC on the HES and commended members for the work they put into it.

a. Waste & Materials Subgroup

The group met with existing stakeholders. Next steps included meeting with the Environmental Center the following week to determine whether there are opportunities to leverage.

b. Natural Gas Subgroup

Members Isbell and Buckley and Chair Baungsgard met to discuss whether and how the Committee should be involved in natural gas. The subgroup planned to meet with community members to discuss potential actions around trying to reduce natural gas use under a climate lens.

c. ReBuilding Task Force

The final meeting of the ReBuilding Task Force was scheduled for Tuesday, December 13. The group drafted official recommendations. The suggestions that came out of the group showed more alignment in the broad coalition than Baungsgard anticipated.

8. Agenda Review

Lacy updated the committee on the following upcoming agenda items:

- January 2023:
 - Council Goal Input Finalization
 - Chair/Vice-Chair Election Prep
 - SDC Methodology Work Group Invitation
 - Work Planning
- February 2023:
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Update
- Future Topics:
 - Update on CCAP Progress
 - Reprioritization for Next Biennium?
 - Update on City Facilities and Operations Climate Action Plan

Member Isbell suggested discussing the natural gas pipeline in January and volunteered to lead that discussion; Lacy proposed bumping work planning to February to fit that agenda item into January. All present supported making that change, with Member Isbell providing a memo to the Committee prior to the meeting.

9. Adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Mitsch
Senior Administrative Support Specialist