



**City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Date: November 20, 2018

Commission Members Present: Jade Monroe, Matthew Benedict, Todd Hay, Phil Coughlin, Liberty Evans-Agnew, Emily Pinckney

Commission Members Excused:

Commission Members Absent: Kenny Coble, Chris Karnes, Sheree Cooks, JC Rubi

Others Present: Jeanne Walter, Jim Parvey, Pat Babbitt, Stephen Atkinson, Crystal Komenda, Abigail Vanover, Erica Tucci, Kristin Lynett

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Phil Coughlin at 4:37 p.m.

Approval of October 23, 2018 Meeting Minutes

There was not a quorum present, so no motion was made

Review of Agenda

There was not a quorum present, so no motion was made

Overview of Recent Bring Your Own Mug Campaign – Pat Babbitt & Abigail Vanover

A review of the BYO Mug campaign lead by Pat and Abigail included details regarding the purpose, marketing, and data gathered. The campaign was funded through a USDN grant. The purpose of the campaign was to build business partnerships with the City of Tacoma, address our society's "throw away" culture and waste practices, and expand the current BYO movement. The marketing campaign involved direct business engagement via phone calls, emails and face to face visits. There was social media and other press utilized in getting the message out. Marketing materials included window clings, countertop tents, and stickers. The campaign involved participating businesses to as whether a beverage was "For here or to go," adhere to a in-house ceramic mug policy, and offer a BYOM discount for the week they participated. Customer engagement was seen largely on social media. There was no negative feedback from customers and five local new organizations did stories on the campaign. BYOM was well received and helped to raise the profile of the Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability, encouraged sustainability in the community, and encouraged sustainability leadership.

Overview of Upcoming Planning Dept Initiatives – Steven Atkinson

Steven's presentation focused on the Planning Department's web page and the projects housed there. Much of the discussion was on the Tide Flats Subarea Plan and Tide Flats Interim Regulations. The TF Subarea Plan is of high profile and importance both to the City, surrounding jurisdictions, the community and the commission members. Currently the Department is working to clarify the funding for the Tide Flat's Subarea Plan. The Department's approach continues to be centered around following planning laws and ordinances, but also fostering an environment of collaboration, coordination, and consultation (the 3 C's). There are currently opportunities for the public to participate in the planning efforts in the role of community liaison. Todd raised the concern that Steven was the only CoT employee handling the Tide Flats Subarea Plan and suggested the Commission support an effort to further staff the planning team. The Residential Infill Pilot Program is also headed to Council in March. There are potential areas for rezones that Steven demonstrated on the Department's web site. He showed many multi-family rezones and reiterated the goal to help people understand what it means and why the areas should be rezoned.

Overview of Sea Level Rise Study – Jeanne Walter

The Washington Coastal Hazards Resilience Network conducted a study to project sea level rise in Washington State. They utilized new science and data to calculate the rise. Jeanne demonstrated the interactive map on their web site that shows higher sea level rise due to ice melt in poles. The report thoroughly analyzes data through observation and advance modeling, utilizing localized data on land movement. They have also integrated a probabilistic framework to inform planning and decision making across the state. It was noted that there is a dramatic exponential increase in sea level rise as time passes. There are plans to update the data as they are working with grant funds from NOAA. Phil noted this would be essential information to incorporate into the City's Asset Management program(s). Jeanne noted USGS is working on incorporating storm surge data.

Subcommittee Updates

Jade and Todd each testified on the Tide Flats. Council decided not to pass amendments on the Tide Flats because they are already moving forward on the Subarea Plan. However, in 6 months, the Mayor encouraged a reintroduction of the amendments for consideration. The questions was raised that the revisiting effort which takes place every 6 months must be costly in terms of time and resources for the City. Todd proposed writing a letter to support staffing to work on the Subarea Plan for the Tide Flats, directed to Council and/or IPS Committee. There was some discussion on to whom the appropriate recipient should be.

Staff Updates – Kristin Lynett

OEPS is currently collecting data on the BYO Bag Campaign/policy. There was a generally positive result from the feedback collected to date. The LNG letter that the committee drafted was not submitted because it was sent to the wrong recipient – it should have been directed to Council based on the City's Legal Department determination. The Commission cannot send a letter to an outside agency. The Commission agreed to redirect the letter to Council. Todd requested clarity from Legal on this rule/law.

Commissioner Comments –

None

Guest Comments -

One more week for electric vehicle promotion! There is an upcoming Expo brainstorm meeting (with pizza!)

Public Comment –

None

Objectives for the Next Meeting(s)

Draft letter to Council supporting increased staffing on the Tide Flats Subarea Plan effort.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, December 18th, 2018 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 243.

Phil Coughlin, Chair

Crystal Komenda, Staff