City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
Meeting Minutes

Date: November 21, 2017

Commission Members
Todd Hay, Jaclyn Layton, Chrissy Cooley,
Present: Phil Coughlan, Sheree Cooks, Chris Karnes, Josh Jorgenson,
Theda Braddock, Colin McMann, Lexi Brewer arrived at 4:40 PM

Commission Members
Absent:

Others Present:
Samantha Lake, Kristi Lynett, Emily Campbell, Jeanne Walter,
Sara Cederberg, Erica Tucci

Call to Order
The meeting was called by Jaclyn Layton at 4:30 PM.

Approval of October 17th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Phil Coughlan motioned to approve the October 17, 2017 meeting minutes.
Seconded by: Chris Karnes
Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.
Ayes: Todd Hay, Jaclyn Layton, Chrissy Cooley, Sheree Cooks, Josh Jorgensen, Theda Braddock,
Colin McMann
Abstained: Lexi Brewer (was not present)

Review of Agenda

Motion: Phil Coughlan motioned to approve the agenda.
Seconded by: Chris Karnes
Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.
Ayes: Todd Hay, Jaclyn Layton, Chrissy Cooley, Sheree Cooks, Josh Jorgensen, Theda Braddock,
Colin McMann
Abstained: Lexi Brewer (was not present)

Port of Tacoma Climate and Air Quality Presentation – Sara Cederberg, The Northwest Seaport Alliance

Sara Cederberg presented on the Port of Tacoma Climate and Air Quality inventory research. The Northwest Seaport Alliance is a marine cargo operating partnership including the ports of Tacoma and Seattle. They manage property and education programs across these and other ports. Their clean air strategy includes the Port of Tacoma, Seattle and Vancouver, BC. Their 2016 Progress Report will be finalized in December. They are going to be updating their Clean Air Strategy next year and will have opportunity for public input. They will also be finishing their 2016 GHG inventory early next year.
Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Report – Kristin Lynett, OEPS

Kristin Lynett and Jeanne Walter with the City of Tacoma’s Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability presented the Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Report for the City of Tacoma. Overall the largest contributor to the City’s Greenhouse Gas emissions is transportation, and they will need to take additional action steps to reach the goals set by the City’s Climate Action Plan. It was suggested that the STC and Transportation Commission should meet to discuss action steps.

The City of Tacoma’s Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability will present the Environmental Action Plan and Greenhouse Gas Inventory to the City Council on December 5th at noon. Commissioners are invited to attend. The presentation will take place during City Council Study Session in Tacoma Municipal Building North, room 16.

Safe Routes to School Update – Commissioner Sheree Cooks

Commissioner Sheree Cooks presented the City’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program. Through this program, the City would like to improve the infrastructure around schools and educate students and their families so that students may safely walk, bike, and skateboard to school; co-benefits include improving safety, reducing collisions, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation. This programs aligns with action T5 of the Environmental Action Plan. The Commission voted to write a letter in support of the City dedicating funding to hire an SRTS Coordinator.

Motion: Chris Karnes motioned to empower the committee to write a letter of support for the Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator and nominates Sheree Cooks to write this letter.

Seconded by: Josh Jorgensen

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: Todd Hay, Jaclyn Layton, Chrissy Cooley, Sheree Cooks, Phil Coughlan, Theda Braddock, Colin McMann, Lexi Brewer

Abstained: None

Subcommittee Updates – Chair Lexi Brewer

Chris Karnes gave an update about the Transportation Commission. Josh Jorgensen gave an update about Tacoma Needs Trees, a local community group that recently planted more than 30 trees.

Staff Updates

Kristin Lynett announced that the City of Tacoma’s Resource Conservation Manager job posting has been delayed until January 2018. The City is receiving a 6 month Green Building Specialist AmeriCorps member in February. The City’s Electric Vehicle Ride and Drive Event at the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, and the EnviroHouse’s Electric Vehicle Workshop were very successful. The City would like to host more Electric Vehicle events in the spring. The Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability plans to relaunch the Sustainability Small Grant program in 2018. They are also adding to their speaker series with an updated Climate Change presentation.

Lexi Brewer noted that Tacoma is on the Institute of Sustainable Communities’ list of 30 eligible communities to have community-based organizations submit proposals for project funding through the Partnership for Resilient Communities.

The City Council will consider a resolution on December 5th to codify a commitment to regional collaboration based on the Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Pledge.
Objectives for the Next Meeting

Presentations will include the Climate Change Speaker Series Presentation, an update on the Small Sustainability Grant Program, the City’s Green Events and Environmental Services Event Support program, which items are to be funded in the City budget, and revision of the Commission’s EAP priorities.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, December 19th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 243.

Lexi Brewer, Chair

Kristin Lynett, Staff