

## Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

- Mission:**
1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
  2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
  3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
  4. Effectively address the future impacts of climate change



**Members:** Wes Gallagher, Hank Landau, Graham Marmion, Cynthia Pruitt, Josh Thompson, Barbara Tipton

**Council Rep:** Kristiana Johnson

**City Staff:** Mayor Dave Earling, Shane Hope, Rob Chave, Steve Fisher, Jen Machuga, Jim Stevens

### ***Meeting Agenda***

**July 9, 2015 @ 8:45 am**

SUBJECT	ACTION/DISC./BRIEF.	TIME	Who
1. Check in & approval of minutes	Action	5 Minutes	Cynthia
2. Comprehensive Plan	Briefing	5 Minutes	Shane
3. Report on projects in the schools	Briefing	20 Minutes	Steve, Mike Cawrse or a student
4. Third National Climate Assessment <a href="http://globalchange.gov">http://globalchange.gov</a>	Briefing	10 Minutes	Cynthia
5. Subcommittee/Top Priority Projects reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Green Resource Room</li> <li>b. Zero Waste</li> <li>c. Green Buildings &amp; Sustainable Development (including Sustainable Heroes and Green Business Pledge)</li> </ol>	Informational	20 Minutes	All
6. Announcements	Informational	10 Minutes	All

### **Climate Committee May 7, 2015 - Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:** Cynthia Pruitt, Hank Landau, Janice Freeman, Josh Thompson, Jim Stevens, Jen Machuga, Shane Hope, Steve Fisher, Rob Chave

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the March 5, 2015 meeting were approved with the following change:

1. Rain Gardens
  - a. ~~The~~ Mike Cawrse, Stormwater Engineering Technician, discussed...

Josh Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Steve Fisher. The minutes were approved unanimously.

## Co-Chair Election

Cynthia Pruitt asked for volunteers or nominations for a co-chair since Mike Nelson recently stepped down due to his appointment to City Council. Steve Fisher was nominated as co-chair and was elected unanimously.

## Comprehensive Plan

Shane Hope reported that each element of the Comprehensive Plan is being updated and is being reviewed by the Planning Board and City Council as part of the process. The Sustainability Element was the first element to be updated and no significant changes were made to this element. They are currently working on the Transportation Element, focusing on alternative modes of transportation. They are also working on the Capital Facilities Element and Streetscape Plan. An open house will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Brackett Room. This will be the next major opportunity for public input. The target for a final decision by the City Council on the Comprehensive Plan update is this summer.

## City's Solar Campaign

Rob Chave reported that the number of solar permits issued by the City greatly increased in 2014, mostly due to two solar campaigns. Also, the increase in solar could be due to the City's new online permitting system. The City is finding that most applications for solar installations are submitted online. The Governor recently recognized Edmonds as a "Solar Ready" city for improvements made to our permitting process. Rob provided the group with a chart indicating the following facts about solar permits:

Year	Number of Permits	Number of Online Permits	Number of Permits Applied for at Counter	% Online	kW
2012	3	0	3	0%	11.0
2013	6	5	1	83%	41.0
2014	39	35	4	90%	241.4
2015	13	12	1	92%	78.8

Hank Landau commented that he was contacted by Northwest SEED who is working with Snohomish County PUD on developing a program for encouraging solar installations at commercial properties. Northwest SEED is asking businesses about the impediments to installing solar at commercial sites in order to help develop the new program.

Jim Stevens said that the solar system at the Frances Anderson Center is now linked to an online interface so that production can be tracked online. He also mentioned that a display is going to be installed in the lobby so that the public can see the system's production.

## Mid-Year Review of Committee's Work

Cynthia suggested that the committee set goals to be accomplished by the end of the year. The group came up with the following goals:

- Complete construction of the green resource room.
- Write three more Sustainability Heroes stories.
- Create a follow-up plan for pledgers of the Green Business Pledge.
- Complete Comprehensive Plan update process.
- Get zero waste resolution adopted by the City Council.

Jim suggested that the committee needs more involvement from the public and voiced concerns that there have lately been more staff members present at committee meetings than members of the public. Hank

suggested changing the name of the committee to make it more attractive for new members. The group agreed that membership on the committee needs to be increased.

Cynthia enquired if members would be interested in changing meetings back to every month instead of every other month. The group generally agreed that it could be helpful to meet every month, but felt that gaining more membership was a bigger priority than meeting more often.

### **Subcommittee / Top Priority Projects Reports**

Green Resource Room: Shane reported that the layout of the Permit Center is being reconfigured in order to accommodate the green resource displays. The main construction was delayed until the fall, but the counters and other portions of the new Permit Center are being constructed in the meantime. This will assist in reducing the length of time that services are disrupted for installation.

Sustainability Heroes: Jim reported that the subcommittee is looking for suggestions for people to interview.

Zero Waste: Steve Fisher handed out a draft zero waste resolution, which they hope to present to City Council this summer. Cynthia mentioned that since Mike Nelson was unable to attend the meeting, he asked her to check to see if the group would be interested in working with students from Edmonds Community College on a zero waste strategy. The group was supportive, and Steve said he would get in touch with his contact at Edmonds Community College.

### **Announcements**

Janice Freeman discussed the Senior Center project including concerns related to sea level rise and the Center's location on the opposite side of the railroad tracks from emergency services.

Hank reported that approximately 150 students participated in a bicycle rodeo at Sherwood Elementary School on May 6<sup>th</sup>. It has been four years since the Council passed a resolution in support of the program, and it has been a great success. Hank also reminded the group that May 15<sup>th</sup> is Bike to Work Day.

Josh Thompson volunteered to get involved with the zero waste strategy with Mike Nelson; he will contact him.

Cynthia confirmed that the next meeting is scheduled for July 2<sup>nd</sup>, but she will ask Carolyn if it can be rescheduled to July 9<sup>th</sup> in order to accommodate holiday travel schedules.