



**JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
September 27, 2017**

The Joint Sustainability Committee convened in a regular meeting on September 27, 2017 at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Chair Jim Walker called the Board Meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Chair Jim Walker, Vice Chair Kaiba White, Adrienne Haschke, Nhat Ho, Sabrina Joplin, Joep Meijer, Mary Ann Neely, Michael Osborne, Patricia Seeger

Board Members Absent:

Kelly Davis, Tom Donovan, Fred McGhee

City Staff in Attendance:

Lewis Leff, Zach Baumer

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The August 23rd meeting minutes were approved 7-0-1 on Committee Member Meijer's motion and Committee Member Osborne's second. Committee Member Ho abstained. Committee Members Davis, Donovan, and McGhee were absent. Committee Member Neely arrived after this vote.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Conor Kenny, a member of the Design Commission, spoke about the urban design guidelines and infrastructure design guidelines. He spoke about the alignment on their Commission's with the Joint Sustainability's focus, and stated that they had already passed an item to request that City Council add an ex officio member to the Joint Sustainability Committee from the Design Commission.

3a. Discussion on the draft addendum to the Austin Community Climate Plan related to food and climate (Discussion and/or possible action)

Zach Baumer and Committee Member Haschke presented on the updated draft addendum to the Climate Plan. Committee Members discussed questions about water rebates in and out of the City limits and ETJ, as well as conservation of farmland. There were specific items (PR6, LOG3, LOG2, and PC1) discussed in depth. The Committee suggested adding in a connection to food desert terminology and prioritizing high-impact strategies. They suggested holding the bar at a high level of scrutiny for adding items to the Climate Plan, quantifying where possible and adding high, medium, or low impact as well as setting goals and tracking progress. The next steps are to pass the item at the Food Policy Board and then bring it back to the Joint Sustainability Committee for adoption.

3b. Update on the Austin Community Climate Plan from the Climate Program Manager (Discussion)

Zach Baumer gave a progress update on the City’s purchase of electric vehicles. Committee Member Meijer spoke to the interest on behalf of Travis County to add EVs also, and that there is a working group working with Austin Energy staff on this too. There was a stated desire for a future item on natural gas related to the Carbon Impact Statement.

4a. Working group updates and potential creation of new working groups: three standing working groups on the Phase 1 Actions of the Austin Community Climate Plan (Electricity and Natural Gas, Transportation and Land Use, Materials and Waste Management), brownfield redevelopment working group, budget working group, and the building standards working group (Discussion and/or possible action)

The Committee agreed to make the following changes:

- Electricity and Natural Gas – add Committee Member Osborne
- Transportation and Land Use – add Committee Member Neely, change Committee Member Davis to be chair
- Sustainable Tourism– remove Committee Member Osborne and Joplin; add Chair Walker as working group chair

4b. Commission members report back on any relevant discussions from their respective boards and commissions (Discussion and/or possible action)

Committee Member Ho stated the Water and Wastewater Commission are discussing the biosolids management RFP. Committee Member Osborne stated that the Electric Utility Commission recommendation passed at City Council regarding a goal of 65% renewables by 2027 (80% with nuclear), and the plan included that the Decker Power Plant would close in 2021/2022 and the Fayette Power Plant closing in 2024/2025. Committee Member Seeger mentioned that the Planning Commission is discussing CodeNEXT draft #2 and maps.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Equity and climate, economic development policy, mobility items, food addendum, addition of Design Commission member, and natural gas/carbon impact statement in January

ADJOURNMENT

On Committee Member Haschke’s motion and Committee Member Joplin’s second, Chair Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. without objection.