



Item 1

**JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

REGULAR

July 24, 2019

The Joint Sustainability Committee convened in a regular meeting on July 24, 2019 at City Hall in Austin, Texas.

Chair Kaiba White, called the Board Meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Kaiba White Chair, Lorig Hawkins, Nhat Ho, Holt Lackey, Melissa Rothrock, Karen Hadden, Fisayo Fadelu

Board Members Absent:

Katie Coyne Vice-Chair, Karen Magid, David Carroll, Robert Schneider, Kelly Davis, Alberta Phillips

City Staff in Attendance:

Marc Coudert, Phoebe Romero, Zach Baumer

CALL TO ORDER

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. June 26, 2019 meeting of the Joint Sustainability Committee
- b. Motion to Approve (Holt) Second (Nhat) Approved 6-1 Abstained

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- No citizen communication.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Presentation on Climate Change and Austin Ecosystems – Mike Kelly, Matt Hollon, and / or Mateo Scoggins, Watershed Protection Department (Discussion and/or possible action)
 - a. Changes in local ecosystems show correlation with climate change, difficult to determine causation

- b. Water quality not directly responding in relation to changing rainfall patterns
 - c. Increase in blue-green algae and bacteria concentrations
 - d. Storm events more frequent and storm flow leading to more disturbance, scouring and erosion
 - e. Changes in temperature may benefit desert species, but negatively affect many trees
- b) Presentation on Climate Resilience Planning Recommendations – Marc Coudert, Office of Sustainability (Discussion and/or possible action)
- a. Overview of resilience resolution response
 - a. Literature Review
 - b. Recommendations
 - b. Equity a priority in process
 - c. Plan to engage community organizers in process
- c) Presentation on the Community Climate Plan Review Process – Zach Baumer, Office of Sustainability (Discussion and/or possible action)
- a. Overview of new sections of climate plan
 - b. Focus on equity
 - a. Need help with community member suggestions
 - c. Overview of schedule
 - d. Need to refresh ask from council regarding community members for climate plan
 - e. Consider sense of urgency in climate action
 - f. Consider importance of applying climate lens to all city processes
- d) 2018-19 Annual Internal Review – Phoebe Romero, Office of Sustainability (Discussion and/or possible action)
- a. Added several goals including:
 - i. Collaborate with Food and Policy Board to promote climate-friendly diet
 - ii. Prioritize resilience planning
 - iii. Pursue electrification
 - iv. Promote policies that promote mode shift
 - v. Make equity a priority

Motion approve (Holt) Second (Nhat) Approved-7-0

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Working group updates (Discussion and/or possible action)
 - a. No July meeting, next meeting scheduled for August 7th
- b. Commission members report back on any relevant discussions from their respective boards and commissions (Discussion and/or possible action)
 - a. Declaration for Climate Emergency
 - i. Resolution up for City Council approval on August 8th
 - b. Water and Wastewater Commission
 - i. Water Forward will roll out policy or code update within one year

- ii. Smart meter rollout
- c. Zero Waste Commission
 - i. Landfill criteria matrix – currently based on TCEQ regulations, proposing to itemize each of the criteria to meet more community engagement
- d. Travis County Food and Policy Board
 - i. Discussing the best use for city or county-owned land and whether there is an opportunity for agriculture
- e. Resource Management Commission
 - i. Looking to form working group to serve low-income communities, similar to Rocky Mountain Institute's e-Lab Forge

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Lessons Learned report on the 2015 Community Climate Plan
- The Plan for the Climate Plan Revision
- Carbon Cure Concrete
- Adaptation from the USDA Forest Service
- Update from the Education and Engagement working group

Motion to adjourn (Nhat)

Meeting adjourns at **8:26**

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Zach Baumer with the Office of Sustainability at 512-974-2836, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Joint Sustainability Committee, please contact Zach Baumer at (zach.baumer@austintexas.gov or 512-974-2836).