



**JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
August 23, 2023**

**The Joint Sustainability Committee convened in a hybrid meeting via videoconferencing and at AE Headquarters.**

**Acting Chair Kaiba White called the Board Meeting to order at 6:10 pm.**

**Board Members in Attendance in Person:** Charlotte Davis, Rodrigo Leal, Yure Suarez, Kaiba White, Haris Qureshi

**Board Members in Attendance Remotely:** Stephanie Bazan, Jon Salinas, Diana Wheeler, Melissa, Rothrock, Heather Houser, Christopher Campbell, Anna Scott

**Board Members Absent:** Larry Franklin, Alice Woods, Kelsey Hitchingham, Chris Maxwell-Gaines, Bertha Delgado

**Observing:** None

**City Staff in Attendance:**  
Zach Baumer

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

The speakers who registered in advance for public comment have three minutes each to address items on the agenda at this time.

**5. Approval of minutes from the July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Joint Sustainability Committee.**

- Motion by Qureshi, seconded by Davis. Approved unanimously (12-0)

**1. Office of Sustainability Budget - Zach Baumer, Office of Sustainability**

- Qureshi: Will you continue to fund Climate Ambassadors?
- Baumer: Yes with additional staff will find a way to continue to support ambassadors.
- White: Met with Rodney Gonzales and made the recommendations clear / simple / easily fundable. Question looming about Temp to Perm Admin or Engagement staff?

- Baumer: Will follow up.
- Scott: Do we know exactly why this additional funding was received?
- White: Great news that we got more funding for this department that needs even more funding for the large job it does.

**2. EV charging infrastructure education and workforce development – Larry Franklin, Black Lives Veggies – Item Skipped**

**6. Discussion and Possible Recommendation to Council on composting and recycling services at multifamily residential properties. – Kaiba White**

- Kaiba White summary of presentation
  - Discussed Recommendation to Council
  - Davis: What about enforcement?
  - White: Code enforcement officers.
  - Rothrock: Will be a slow rollout, no enforcement for a year.
  - Davis: Education, are there additional requirements above and beyond signage / information to educate folks how to use it?
  - White: Signage and also materials given to residents
  - Suarez: Who ends up paying for this, and trash valet, will they compost?
  - Discussion: unsure, recommendation doesn't address.
  - Going to council next month.
- Houser motion – Scott – 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote = 12-0 adopted.

**7. Discussion and Possible Recommendation to Council on Priority policy and program recommendations from JSC working groups on Austin Climate Equity Plan Implementation.**

Start with Transportation – Chris Campbell

- Walked through Draft recommendations
- Discussion around EV Community Needs Assessment
- Discussion around policy / programmatic recommendations v. Funding (which typically happens in March.
- Item by item discussion of each recommendation

Now onto Natural Systems / Food Product Consumption – Anna Scott

- Walked through draft recommendations
- Discussion all items

Onto review of Sustainable Buildings – Kaiba White

- 7 recommendations, 3 closely related
- Discussed all items

**3. JSC Annual Report**

- White proposes to take some bullet points from the discussion tonight and include in the report. No disagreement

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

White adjourns meeting at 9:08 pm with no objections.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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For more information on the Joint Sustainability Committee, please contact Zach Baumer at ([zach.baumer@austintexas.gov](mailto:zach.baumer@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2836).

**The minutes were approved at the September 27, 2023 meeting on Commissioner White's motion, Commissioner Suarez second on a 10-0 vote (with Commissioners Campbell and Maxwell-Gaines off dais).**