

West Linn Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting

WebEx Virtual Meeting

3/17/22, 6-7:30pm

Attendance **Board:** Kim Bria, Michael Carlson, Victoria Meier, Terence Shumaker, Gregory Smith,
Council Liaison: Mary Baumgardner - absent
Staff Liaison: Jerry Gabrielatos
Guests: Darren Wyss, City of West Linn

Mission [From the Charter \(Mission\):](#) The Sustainability Advisory Board is committed to collaborating with government and residents to improve the quality of life in West Linn by advancing stewardship of our environmental, social, and economic resources that is equitable for all present and future generations.

Agenda Topic 2 – Review / Approve February Meeting Notes

Summary Approved February Meeting Notes

Discussion None

Agenda Topic 3 – Public Comment

- None

Agenda Topic 4 – Check-ins / Updates

- Victoria Meier: Senator Merkley happy with new post office. US Postal Service fleet should be electrified. Planted peas from saved seed. . Last 2-3 weeks charged car from roof solar panels. Encouraged.
- Jerry Gabrielatos: No comment.
- Terence Shumaker: Snap peas up. SAB needs to stick to our goals and trust the city to work on the established goals. We are on the precipice doing good things with the city. Greg will publish article in the West Linn Tidings. Asked City Manager to get as many council members to attend Greg's neighborhood resiliency teams presentation on April 12th. SAB has created a good overall list of education series presentations. .
- Kim Bria: Present, forwarded information to WLWV School District staff of the EPA Clean School Bus Program. It has \$5B for 2022-2026 to fund the replacement of existing school buses with low or zero-emissions school busses.
- Michael Carlson: Present, first batch of seeds planted and pruned fruit trees. Sustainability classes going well. Can city reach out to Neighborhood Association presidents? Greg attending their May meeting. Greg will notify NA presidents for April presentation.
- Gregory Smith: Peter Hayes to present policy makers, timber industry, forestry students about climate smart forestry. He would be good to bring in for fall education series.
- Darren Wyss: No comment,

Agenda Topic 5 – SAB/City communication

Summary Kim & Terry December presentation for staff time to work on SAB proposal and goals. Planning dept. sent Jan 24th and email to Brenna Cruz. Terry received yesterday forwarded information 3/16/2022.

Discussion	Timely communication between SAB and city is extremely important. We are working hard to prepare for potential grant funding. Baseline energy audits and documentation is needed when short deadlines occur for grants that West Linn is qualified for.
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Agenda Topic 6 – Action Items Update

Summary	Reviewed previous action items for SAB members
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Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debbie to send info on composting to SAB members – DONE discuss in April or May. • Jerry to check with fleet manager & parks department for progress report on conversion to electric vehicles and electric tools. Ken Warner reached out to LO to see how they work with lawn maintenance equipment. In general battery wears out quicker. Portland working on conversion as well. Didn't hear back. Lawn maintenance discussed at one council meeting and goal setting. Noise is annoying and environmental impact creates incentive to migrate to electric lawn equipment. We have 2 EV charging stations and plans for 2 more. CWCCC has asked the city to do (study?) with emissions on fleet. Greg said electric lawn mower didn't have the strength to cut lawn in the spring. PGE coordinating day for electric tool exchange. Working with Lake Oswego and Wilsonville. West Linn will be invited to participate. • Michael to find speaker for October fall food preservation education series program. TBD. Check with Oregon State Extension • Charity to enlist speaker(s) for November "Low waste low energy holidays" education series program. • Kim & Terry to enlist speaker(s) for May education series on "The Electric Future." 2022 Goals and Priorities – DONE (general – panel of residential charging, tools, transport, solar generation). This year's education series are "seed seminar" overviews. Future events will drill down with greater details. Generate excitement of what we can do...encouraging...range of material available. Inform attendants each time that this is an overview presentation. More details for future events. A survey at registration could find out what the participants are interested in. Kim will contact Cheryl Hill at the Library to see if such a survey is possible.-
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Agenda Topic 7 – SAB 2022 Goals Update

Summary	Darren Wyss provided clarity on which procedures, rules and codes would be affected by implementation of the SAB's 2022 goals.
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Discussion	<p>Darren talked to Terry and Kim prior to presentation in fall, then again in December. The goal from council was general in looking at CDC updates. Darren in charge of updating.</p> <p>Community Electrification</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EV charging stations and solar panels: This is a budgetary decision by Council if the focus is for all city facilities to implement. Nothing to change for city side. 2. Requiring charging stations or infrastructure for new multifamily or businesses: A Department of Land Conservation and Development project known as Climate Friendly Equitable Communities is coming out with their draft rules at the end of March, followed by a public hearing. A mandate for new commercial and multifamily units would provide infrastructure for conduits and cabling to parking lots. An update on rules will be provided at the April SAB meeting. . It may be required on a larger scale at state level. <p>Charging and solar for single-family housing: This would be a building code item.</p>
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Clackamas County building official would come into play. City contracts with Clackamas County for electrical and plumbing inspectors. Contacting county regarding implementation process. Discussed at state level a few years ago. This topic is not governed by the CDC. Would be addressed at the city level, but need county official to do permitting. (Researching other places in the country already doing it).

City building official is Jim Clarke (If we want to pursue).

Resilient landscaping: Not covered in the CDC, so there's no enforcement action. Planning is out of the picture. It would have to be a mechanism or incentive, and we may want to do demonstration projects on city properties. Prioritizing and budgeting through parks/public works, whoever has funding. Planning and native garden. Something we can start with. With information campaign to save water and \$\$\$. Fire, native, water, habitat (water resource and habitat areas rehab and disturbed areas). These corridors encouraging native vegetation. Wetlands and buffers. DLCD equitable comma, discussing about wildfire planning. Just getting started.

Could have resilient plantings on perimeters of city to protect from fires coming into city and provide corridors for wildlife into the city.

City of Tigard requires 20% coverage of site with landscaping. That could be native landscaping. Sign off if was native.

Private property: Need a public preservation campaign that emphasizes native planting. Use demonstration plantings and activities. Enlist the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. Council has funded them for 4 years. Suzie Petersen great to work with. Seek out other non-profits with other materials.

Water utility rates: Not CDC. Would be utility advisory board and public works discussions.

Tree preservation: Many want to change the tree code. Could be the CDC and municipal code (outside the city). Most targeted. State of OR has a process to go through. It's a multi-year planning device. At city of Tigard it took them 3 years of total for urban strategy.

Council planning docket is reviewed yearly. Council has six prioritized planning projects on docket (2 may drop off). It would take a commitment from council. No staff capacity to do the work.

Milwaukie came up with a new sophisticated tree code. Could West Linn utilize this as a means to determine its own code?

Planning Docket determined April 4th with planning commission. SAB should send proposal directly to council.

Secondly Tigard did manage the project.

None are relevant to CDCs. We might do a number of recommendations.

Darren indicated the SAB has done fantastic job and this goal is specific to the CDC. What we came up with is relevant to the discussion. Could be simple programming or budget. We are going down right track.

City Facilities energy audit: City Manager contacted PGE. It's not interesting, it's on an annual basis. 2020 energy use dropped as a result of COVID. Contacted PGE to see what we can do to decrease energy usage. The original goal was to establish a 3 year baseline. Jerry will find out from PGE.

PGE is doing only electric energy. What about audits of other resources?

Regarding making improvements to conserve more energy, do building directors have control over budgetary factors? We completed leaders in sustainability certification in several buildings. The budgets are put together with director and facilities managers. City Manager approves before council. What if improvements are more than allocated to building? The city anticipates a deficit within four years.

OIT students did report to council several years ago related to parks facilities and recommendations to reduce energy use. Energy savings was to be realized by working on low hanging fruit. Great recommendations, very little was implemented. The budget issue becomes important. If there's not emphasis on city staff to do so.

Agenda Topic 8 – Neighborhood Resilience Teams

Summary Greg discussed Neighborhood Resilience Team (NRT) presentation for April 12.

Discussion Is SAB interested in taking on the NRT initiative to pursue? Greg sent out the paper he wrote about last month. Initially there's no outlay of funds required. SAB is instrumental in getting this information to the public. Mike in favor of pursuing this. Interested in what NA chairs have to say. Sharing food cooking for each other. The benefits are obvious. There should be an organizational push for the city to promote the educational series. Part of Greg's April session will be getting feedback from people listening in. and the effort already taking place. Greg meeting Doug at the library March 18.

Applications are in for emergency services director but no date for interviews.

Should SAB participate in the West Linn Old Time Fair in July? With EV bikes and resilient map your neighborhood. Must apply for a booth or space.

Agenda Topic 9 – Website Updates

Summary Greg Smith to handle SAB web page updates

Discussion Request for SAB member to be responsible for getting updated info to Danielle Choi for the website. Greg volunteered. Members to send edits to Greg and he will send all edits to Danielle.

Agenda Topic 10 – Staff Liaison Update

Summary Will send an email to the entire group of what they have been working on. Jerry invited WL refuse to April meeting

Discussion None

Agenda Topic 11 – Action Items for SAB members

Discussion

- **Jerry** to check with fleet manager & parks department for progress report on conversion to electric vehicles and electric tools.
- **Kim & Terry** to comprise the list for emergency management.
- **Kim** to contact Cheryl Hill regarding areas of interest question for registrants of SAB education series.

- **Jerry** to check with PGE regarding three-year energy baseline.
- **Greg** to be liaison with Danielle Choi to communicate website edits.

Additional Discussion

Does the advisory board feel that the Oppenlander Fields property is something sustainable?
It is a 10-acre discussion for future meetings.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 pm

DRAFT