



**Jefferson County Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting  
January 13, 2021 • 4:00 p.m.  
WebEx Virtual Meeting**

Convened: 4:02pm

**Attendees:** Jeff Wong (JW), Cedar Blazek (CB), Julia Patrick (JP), Kevin Morse (KM), Jasmina Petrovic (JPe), Conor Merrigan (CM), Frank Rukavania (FR), Kimberly Pardue Welch (KPW)

County Staff: Commissioner Andy Kerr (AK), Jabez Meulemans (JM), Jim Rada (JR), Steve Snyder (SS)

**Public Comment**

n/a

**Approval of Minutes** – December 9, 2020

JP made motion with one change, FR attended the December meeting. CB seconded motion with change. All in favor.

**Welcome: Commissioner Kerr**

**Annual Sexual Harassment Training**

Members who acknowledged they took the 2021 annual training - JW, CB, JP, JPe, FR

Members who have not taken training - KM, CM

Members not present - KPW

DC asked those who have not took the training, to complete before next meeting.

**County Update**

JM let the group know the annual internal sustainability report coming will be out in 1-2 weeks.

**2021 Officer Elections**

JW volunteered to serve as 2021 Chair. CB made motion. JP seconded motion. All in favor.

FR offered to serve as Vice-Chair. KM made motion. KPW seconded motion. All in favor.

Secretary/Treasurer position. JW advised position remained vacant in 2020 due to small budget and DC ability to serve as secretary/treasurer and would recommend it remain open for this year. All agreed.

### **Sustainability Foundation**

JW updated group that donations have been received from Waste Management, First Bank and Public Health for a total of \$20,500. Held a second call with Molson Coors and they are very interested in funding and participation in Climate Action Plan. IGA finalized with Community First Foundation (CFF) who serves as the fiscal sponsor and under their 501c3 umbrella.

JW and KM will meet with CFF to discuss Fund details and debrief SS and DC.

KM, FR and JP have met twice to start planning process for Foundation. Setting up webpage on CFF platform. Group had logo questions and SS recommends working with DC on logo creation. DC will attend sub-committee's next meeting to see what needs to get done and how to move forward.

### **Sponsorship Status/Levels**

KM asked group if they had any suggestions on how to outreach and spread the word and raise more money. JW asked if CAP needed to be an internal document or can an external organization manage? Has examples from Summit and Eagle Counties of their Plan managed by an outside organization. SS let group know, the County could adopt the Plan and have it created by outside entity, on behalf of the county.

### **Climate Action Plan - Funding**

JW shared that calls are in process to seek additional funding and sponsorships. Commission will present to Board of County Commissioners (BCC) late January on status of CAP, funding to-date, etc. In 2020, BCC asked that funding be complete before sending out RFP.

### **Climate Action Plan - Municipalities Collaboration**

JM has reached out to local municipalities and asked they identify one staff and one elected official to participate on CAP steering committee. Goal is to integrate the CAP into every county division in some way. JW would like to set a goal that CAP is worked into the Jefferson County's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiative. JR advised group, Public Health may be hiring Equity Officer and will also integrate both CAP and Sustainability Commission into their day-to-day responsibility. JR asked that Public Health be invited to be part of Steering Committee. JW asked FR to remember to include health equity

component throughout all sectors in CAP. JW heard Hazard Mitigation Plan does not include climate action as part of their Plan. Members expressed concern that climate action is not.

#### Community Engagement

JPe let group know about a community idea on how to get students engaged and involved. Several teachers focus on climate education. She will reach out to gauge their interest.

JPe will take lead on creating a list of businesses who group can reach out to advise of community events.

CM advised group there is a state local match grant available for developing Climate Action Plan. JW asked he send details to DC, JM and himself. CM advised Clay Brown is contact at state. He advised to talk with him before meeting with BCC.

AK let group know about Jeffco's Hazard Mitigation Plan and public participation opportunity tomorrow evening. Good opportunity to attend and let them know climate crisis should be addressed. DC will share meeting details with members.

#### **Partners in Energy**

Xcel is agreeing to extend existing contract thru 2021, thereby no IGA needed. They will provide resources for 2021.

#### Residential

CB via Partners in Energy program the Energy Action Plan was developed in 2017. Will try and increase participation in utilities renewable energy programs. New participation has been declining. Campaign to increase participation includes on-line, community organization and social media campaign. CB to work with KPW on a sustainability tip for Engage Jeffco.

KPW looking thru all HOAs in Jeffco to target. CB work with Brendle on one-pager to include in kit.

JP advised group that she received the go ahead for a sustainability focus in the April take and go kits distributed by the library.

#### Commercial

KM will provide a commercial update at next month's meeting.

### **Website Resources Section**

DC updated group that she, MM and KPW working on and will talk off-line.

### **2020 Budget Wrap Up**

DC gave update on 2020 funds spent on masks and will dist'b to commission members when they come in.

Adjourned: 5:37pm