Rapid City Sustainability Committee

Meeting Minutes Draft

September 10, 2018 5:30 PM
3rd Floor East Meeting Room, Rapid City Administration Building, 300 6th St, Rapid City, SD 57701

0. Attendance
   a. Members Present: Kevin Crosby, Matraysa Punderson, Alan Anderson, Sherry Thurston, Danielle Gage, Kelly Moore, Kelli Juhl, Don Martinez, Jennifer Benning, and Lysann Zeller
   b. Absent Members: Jason Phillips and Eirik Heikes
   c. Liaisons Present: Darla Drew
   d. Guests: Cory Ferguson, Eva Chase (BHSU Sustainability), Karl Merbach, Liz Kaiser (Regional Health Sustainability), Sophie Brogdon, and Zach Burckhard

1. Call to Order
   a. The meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm.
   b. Agenda Review and Approval: Item 6.-c. (Hardrocker EPICS Sustainability) was added to the agenda.
   c. General Public Comments
      i. Alan shared a flyer with information for the upcoming Citizens’ Climate Lobby North Wind Regional Conference being held September 28th-30th; registration is open online.

2. Officer’s Reports
   a. 8/27/18 Minutes: Lysann suggested a couple of corrections to the misspelled names in the minutes. Dr. Benning moved to approve the August 27, 2018, meeting minutes, seconded by Kelly. All voted aye, motion approved unanimously.
   b. Social Media (Matraysa):
      i. Matraysa is going to be creating Facebook events for Committee meetings through the end of the year, but some of the meeting dates fall on holidays, including Native American Day, Veterans Day, and Christmas Eve. Discussion ensued about whether to hold meetings on these dates or possibly rescheduling. It was decided to not hold meetings on any of said holidays and to hold an additional Committee meeting on October 29th (the fifth Monday in October).
      ii. Rapid City Sustainability is now on Instagram: @rapidcitysustainability
      iii. Matraysa was contacted by someone on Facebook interested in joining the Committee and she sent this person the information for filling out a Citizen Interest Application.
   c. Treasurer (Danielle): Danielle has created a balance sheet and uploaded it to Dropbox. The current budget balance is $1,652.92.

3. Subcommittee Reports
   a. Awards (Don)
      i. Rapid City Regional Hospital (Lysann/Don): Presentation is scheduled for the October 15th City Council meeting- please plan to attend. Lysann is going to work on a press release and send it to Don for review prior to the next Committee meeting.
      ii. Breadroot (Dr. Benning): Dr. Benning is going to submit an application for the sustainability work that Breadroot Natural Foods Co-op is doing.
      iii. Car Dealerships (Lysann): Several of the new car dealerships have incorporated sustainability principles into their buildings (i.e. geothermal heat, energy efficiency, LED lighting, etc.) so Lysann is going to do some research about the local car dealerships and bring it back to the Committee to determine if giving multiple awards would be appropriate. Kelly suggested maybe lumping the awards together and giving them to the parent corporations.
4. **Guest Speaker Presentations - Schedule**  
   a. **Electric Vehicles – September 15**:  
      i. This event is being held as part of Plug In America’s National Drive Electric Week.  
      ii. Electric vehicles will be on-site and the Committee will have a booth at the Farmer’s Market from 8 am-2pm, along with Dakota Rural Action and Citizen’s Climate Lobby.  
      iii. The Committee will then host a presentation (“Electric Vehicles: The Future is Here”) from 2-4 pm at the Pennington County 4-H Building; the presentation will consist of 6-8 slides that Kelly has prepared and then a panel discussion with representatives from the Committee (Sherry), Black Hills Energy (Don), Rapid City Community Development (John Green), and Liberty Jeep (John Anthony).  
      iv. Kelly is taking care of snacks and will send out the flyer again to everyone via email – please help spread the word. The press release has already been sent out with the help of Rapid City’s Communications Coordinator, Darrell Shoemaker.  
   b. **Community Solar – January 21**: This event will be worked on more following the Electric Vehicles event.  

5. **Old Business**  
   a. **New Subcommittees**:  
      i. Kevin gave a recap of what was discussed at the last Committee meeting regarding the formation of Subcommittees, what their purpose will be, and the Subcommittees that have been preliminarily proposed: Awards, Events and/or Education, City Facilities, Transportation Infrastructure, Low-Impact Development, and Housing.  
      ii. There was much discussion about projects the Committee would potentially like to work on with the new Subcommittee structure, including electric vehicles, educational events, the new Civic Center arena expansion, VW settlement funds, and several others.  
      iii. There was further discussion about all of the important items listed in the Committee’s 2017 Strategic Plan and the inability of the Committee members to address all of them. Alan suggested possibly adding more members to the Committee since there seems to be a lot of interest from the public; Kevin said he would add this as a discussion item on the agenda for the next Committee meeting. Darla made a suggestion to simplify by forming only a couple of Subcommittees and working on the most relevant issues at this time.  
      iv. After additional discussion, it was decided to form the following Subcommittees: **Events and/or Education/Outreach** (including Awards), **City Facilities**, and **Sustainable Development** (including transportation infrastructure, electric vehicles, low-impact development, and housing).  
      v. Subcommittee chairpersons and members will be determined at the next Committee meeting.  
   b. **Strategic Plan**: This item was discussed as part of the previous agenda item – no action taken.  
   c. **Remote Meeting Attendance** (605.721.3358): This item was not discussed due to time.  

6. **New business**  
   a. **Member Reappointments**: Danielle, Alan, Eirik, and Kevin have all been reappointed to the Committee through August, 2021.  
   b. **VW Settlement Funds**: Sherry gave an overview of the status of South Dakota’s share of the VW Settlement Funds and how they are being administered by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). She needs help submitting a proposal to DENR by the end of the month to apply for funding for Rapid City to use. She is going to share some more information with interested Committee members and will keep the Committee updated.
c. **Hardrocker EPICS Sustainability**: Dr. Benning said her students need help coming up with an idea for a sustainability project to work on now that they are finished working on the CSAC energy audit. The new Civic Center arena expansion and the use of electric vehicles for City operations were both suggested by Committee members and Kelly volunteered to meet with the EPICS students at their upcoming meeting to discuss these ideas further.

7. **Informational Items**
   a. **Upcoming Meetings & Events**:
      i. Sept. 15: Plug in America Event at Farmer’s Market & Panel
      ii. Sept. 24, Oct. 22 & 29: Regular RCSC Meetings (*no meeting Oct. 8*)
      iii. October 15: Regional Health Award Presentation at City Council (6:30 pm)
      iv. **October 22 – Regular meeting at Horizon Point (BHE)?**

8. **Adjournment**
   a. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

*Minutes taken by Lysann Zeller.*