

**CITY OF FOREST GROVE
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM**

THURSDAY, November 17, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.

Councilor

Brian Schimmel, Chair
Deke Gundersen
Hope Kramer
Robin Lindsley
Mitch Taylor, Vice Chair
Jacob Rose (Kayleigh DeBruyne)

Dale Feik
John Hayes
Edgar Fausto
Karin Pfeiffer-Hoyt

All public meetings are open to the public and all persons are permitted to attend any meetings except as otherwise provided by ORS 192:

→ Citizen Communications – Anyone wishing to speak on an issue not on the agenda should sign in for Citizen Communications prior to the meeting. The presiding officer will call the individual or group by the name given on the sign in form. Each person must state his or her name and give an address for the record.

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CALL TO ORDER:

Sustainability Commission Present: Chair Brian Schimmel, Robin Lindsley, Edgar Fausto, Dale Feik, John Hayes, Alternate Kayleigh DeBruyne, Karin Pfeiffer-Hoyt, Elaine Cole

Excused Absence: Jacob Rose, Hope Kramer, Vice Chair Mitch Taylor

Absent: Deke Gundersen

Council Present:

Staff Present: Jon Holan Community Development Director, George Cress Director Light & Power, Brandi Walstead Program Coordinator

Guests: Melanie Estrada, Cristina Delgado

1. REGULAR MEETING: Chair Schimmel called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. Commissioner Pfeiffer-Hoyt introduced Ms. Christina Delgado who works with the Chica's Program from Adelante Mujeres. Ms. Delgado will be filling a vacant position starting in January. Ms. Delgado is an eighteen year resident in the community and currently works with the college readiness program.

Chair Schimmel announced, beginning in January, Ms. Estrada will be the high school representative to the Commission. In addition, Ms. DeBruyne will be the voting member alternate for Commissioner Rose.

Mr. Holan announced that Councilor Lowe will not be returning as Council Liaison. Mayor Truax will announce a replacement in January. Commissioner Cole asked how many vacancies

there are currently on the Commission. Ms. Walstead there is three vacancies. A meeting is deemed to have a quorum if a majority of the current members are present.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS: Chair Schimmel introduced Sheryl Lumai from the social equity Facebook group – 977116. I’m asking the Commission if I can work on the social equity sub-committee. I’m a tutor at the college and work with Stand Up for Racial Justice Facebook search group.

2. CONSENT AGENDA: Chair Schimmel announced that the October 27, 2016 meeting minutes will be available at the next meeting in November.

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: none presented

4. PLUS/DELTA: none presented.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT: Councilor Lowe not present.

6. STAFF REPORT: Mr. Holan mentioned that the next Commission meeting will be held on December 15, instead of December 22. Last night the first session of the Affordable Housing advisory group was held, we had fifteen folks in attendance, thirty were invited. Our goal was to define the term what affordable housing is. We talked about three categories; shelters and people transitioning to permanent housing, affordable housing based on income, and for market housing looking at overcoming barriers for down payments.

Chair Schimmel, I was in attendance last night. The sentiment in the meeting ranged from broad to focused, from I need a shelter to I can’t afford a down payment, to making tiny houses more accessible. There were a lot of experienced power brokers in attendance from many organizations.

Mr. Holan, our purpose is to identify strategies that work for the City of Forest Grove but also strategies that may not be city vetted but may be based through various developmental housing types. There will be a Council work session scheduled for 6:15 PM, December 12. Meeting materials need to be submitted to Ms. Ruggles by December 2. The topic of the work session will be Work Plan Priorities. At the last meeting, Council approved changes to Commission by-laws concerning membership and dropping the Clean Water Services membership slot. Also the Parks Master Plan was approved as part of the City Comprehensive Plan. This action provides for more legal authority. In a famous land use (Dolan) case, in Tigard, the City lost the court case and a major factor why they did is because they did not adopt their Parks Plan as part of the City Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Walstead, as part of the education series we offered to hold meetings with Adelante to talk about the new plastic bag ban ordinance and the difference in bag types. Council wanted to provide education on implementing the ordinance. Enforcement of the plastic bag ban ordinance to start January 2017, I will also keep in touch with local businesses to answer any questions they might have. Reusable hand bags were handed out. We are now a paying member of the Partners for a Sustainable Washington County. I’ve started attending the

meetings; Tualatin Parks & Recreation led a discussion on social equity at the last meeting. I think the expertise and the knowledge from the committee will benefit our Commission.

- 7. TOPIC AREA: Sustainable Resilience Conference Update:** Commissioner Fausto, we are proposing having a one or two event to be held in different locations around town. Topics to include; agriculture, alternate energy, climate change, and social equity. A tentative date has been set for April 22, 2017, Earth Day. Times and locations to be determined. We are looking for money to hire top speakers. We are also going to need a bookkeeper and city staff to help with planning and logistics. Commissioner Lindsley, event planning will include; food, shelter, locating event sites. We want people to attend who are looking at ways to be sustainable. We will try early outreach through the city website. We would like more time at our next Commission meeting for event planning. Discussion followed with members offering to help out. We don't know at this time how much money we have to pay speakers.
- 8. Topic AREA: Work Plan Priorities:** Chair Schimmel, the idea here is to formally adopt the Work Plan for the coming year. Vice Chair Taylor submitted a list of priorities (see handout) identified at the October Commission meeting.

Chair Schimmel asked members present their choice for being champions for the top five selected topics. It doesn't mean we will stop work on the others but will focus on the top topics that were chosen by members at the last meeting.

Chair Schimmel indicated that Commissioner Kramer, who is not present tonight, is on board with Sustainable Schools and Education. Commissioner Pfeiffer-Hoyt, who will not be on the Commission after December, would like work to continue with Social Equity and especially senior services, and Latino Summit. After I leave, Ms. Delgado would like to continue to work on the topics that I have been working on. Mr. Holan indicated the Latino Summit has legs and will most likely be assisted by the City.

We as a group are committed to the top five priorities which are; Sustainable Schools/Education, Food/School Gardens, annual Sustainability Symposium, Natural Resources, Media/ Public Relations. Chair Schimmel asked members if any changes or modifications are needed for the top five selections. A consensus of the members agreed on the top five.

Commissioner Feik, I would like my energy to go towards Natural Resources, land, soil, sea, air quality, climate change. On November 10, the judge in the 21 Youth case ruled in favor of the plaintiffs to go to trial. I'm not sure of a course of actions for this group to take, but I will champion with Natural Resources.

Commissioner Hayes, I will be happy to continue with LED lighting, Public Education and Symposium. Commissioner Cole, I would like to continue with education and getting a news article out.

Commissioner Fausto, I would still like to continue on the One Bag A Week challenge if I'm still on the Commission. I'm undecided at this point, my term expires in December.

Chair Schimmel made a motion to adopt the priorities as listed with the additional names who were added at tonight's meeting to work on each priority. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Feik with an amendment to strike the points or votes that were listed for each priority. The motion passed to adopt the priorities with the additional members and to strike the points that were given to each priority.

- 9. Topic Area: Pacific U. Pipeline:** Chair Schimmel, this is a resource for administrative support or an opportunity for a student intern to work on a project (see handout). In January, we will run our needs request through Mr. Levesque to match up a student to give us some help.

Commissioner Lindsley, the Sustainable Conference is a good opportunity to have a student video record the various sessions. We can have a record of the symposium.

Chair Schimmel, for January, we will draw up a list of projects where we need student help on and pass it through the Pipeline to recruit students to help with a project or be an intern.

- 10. TOPIC AREA: Council Work Session Prep:** Chair Schimmel, the intent here is to review our priorities that we will be presenting to the Council on December 12. Along with Mr. Holan, I will be drafting a presentation for the Council work session which needs to be given to Ms. Ruggles by December 2, to meet the deadline for Council packets.

Commissioner Feik, has the request to discuss the 21 Youth case gone anywhere yet. Did Councilor Lowe ever make a request to get this topic on the Council agenda? Mr. Holan, to my knowledge Councilor Lowe did not request this item to be placed on the agenda. Chair Schimmel, we will add the 21 Youth Letter to the Council work session packet.

Chair Schimmel, the Council work session is an opportunity for us to have an in-person conversation with Council to discuss our Work Plan and our priorities for 2017. In addition, the work session will give us a chance to present our accomplishments for 2016.

Mr. Holan, the by-laws for each board and commission require them to make an annual presentation to Council regarding their work plans.

- 11. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:** Commissioner Fausto, I'm currently working on a Latino summit report to give to Brandi. Commissioner De Bruyne, with some other students I'm planning on going to Standing Rock to give our support against the pipeline. Commissioners offered up winter clothing for her journey.

Commissioner Lindsley, coming up in Salem is a meeting of Women in Agriculture; we are going to talk about dry land farming. This topic is pertinent with the issues arising from climate change and warming.

Commissioner Karin, my last meeting will be this December, I wanted to thank everybody on the Commission, and it was a great experience to work with you.

Ms. Delgado thanked everyone for her welcome to the Commission.

Commissioner Cole, 'you should be ashamed to die until you've won some victory for humanity' – John McMann. I've learned a lot being on the Commission, I've been inspired. Commissioner Hayes has been a great mentor for me. I just need a break now from my heavy work schedule; I will still be engaged with sustainability. Commissioner's thanked Commissioner Cole for her service.

Chair Schimmel, I want to report on a school meeting that was held yesterday. Commissioner Kramer and I met with Billy, Stacy and Dave and Washington County recycling on intake for next school year. Next school year, NAM's will start using the reusable washable trays instead of Styrofoam, the high school has more kids and it makes it more difficult to clean up. We are helping to identify different options for the schools, some of the information out there concerning recyclable plates and trays are not reliable. We want to help provide accurate information out on materials and grant funds so the schools can make better decisions. They have \$2,900 in grant funds remaining to be spent on items that need to be identified by December 31. We told them they need to focus on projects they can be successful with. The food scrap collection may need to wait, that is a complicated project and will need more time. Billy has a hard time communicating with Waste Management and we suggested they use Mr. Downey as a resource. I will touch base with Mr. Downey to see if he can help. Metro may consider a requirement for commercial composting and that may be leverage for schools for developing a composting program. We also talked about the recycling bins, they do have the bins. We plan on meeting again this January. Sona mentioned a capacity audit for containers that will be happening in the next couple of months.

Commissioner Lindsley, we need a place to store the gleaning items we bought with the CEP grant funds. We really need to find a place to store it in with the City instead of storing items in my farm building. This may be an opportunity for an intern to help with the gleaning program. Commissioner Cole, maybe Adventures Without Limits may be an option for storing the gleaning materials.

12 FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS: Next month's agenda to include Work Plan priority planning, Pacific U. Pipeline topics, Sustainable Resilience Conference Update. Nana Cardoons CEP Grant Application.

13. Plus/Delta: None presented at this time.

14. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
George Cress, Director
Light & Power