

Table with 3 columns: Hope Kramer, Brian Schimmel, Deke Gundersen, Robin Lindsley, Dale Feik; Mayor Pete Truax; Mitch Taylor, Chair, Jacob Rose, Vice Chair, John Hayes, Melanie Estrada Lopez, (Kayleigh DeBruyne)

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.

All public meetings are handicap accessible. Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) or qualified sign language interpreters are available for persons with impaired hearing or speech. For any special accommodations, please contact the City Recorder, at (503) 992-3235, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Taylor called meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Sustainability Commission Present: Chair Mitch Taylor, Robin Lindsley, Melanie Estrada Lopez, Brian Schimmel

Council Present: Mayor Traux

Staff Present: Jon Holan, Community Development Director; Kari Kent, Administrative Specialist

Guests: Debbie Garamond, Elena Parker, Ralph Parker

1. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS:

Guest Debbie Garamond introduced herself as the founder of the Washington County chapter of 350.ORG. She runs several programs to educate and provide resources for support for Sustainability Activism. This includes education in schools to help young people become exposed to different ways of looking at things.

While the commission cannot be involved in any political action group they can ask for support from them to spread the word about an event, i.e. the Knowledge Pub.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

None - No Quorum Available

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

- 1. Lexicon of Sustainability
2. Bike Share Update
3. Latindex

4. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Mayor Traux:

Council held a work session on homelessness. The topic had exposure to the Ad Hoc Technical Committee and the Ad Hoc Policy Committee. The subject was not discussed thoroughly enough due to time constraints.

Council issued proclamation, signed by all members of the City Council, to the family of Camille Miller in memory of her service to the community and council.

Council honored two employees who are retiring; Jon Holan, 17 years as Director of Community Development and Mike Herb, almost 30 years with the Forest Grove Police Department and Author of the Forest Grove Police Log.

Reports from Carrie Herring (Washington County Community Engagement Coordinator, deals with Citizen Participation Organizations, CPO's), shows that Washington County CPO's are not as impactful as they used to be. Work is being done to re-engage CPO's in incorporated areas. CPO's have been and are affective in unincorporated areas. CPO 13 is very involved and in coordination with the City of Forest Grove over the Regional Bike Trail. Dedication of roundabout at David Hill Road and HWY 47 was successful. Both this intersection and the roundabout at Purdin Road and HWY 47 are working very well. The intersection of Pacific Avenue and HWY 47 is still underway to make turn lanes from Pacific to Quince and Quince to Pacific. There are other future plans for extra turn lanes. The intersection fails daily with vehicles stuck in the turn lanes for more than one cycle.

Council adopted the Westside Refinement Plan. This will result in many single family units and the possibility of mixed use areas. Council sustained the planning director's interpretation of certain development codes in regards to an appeal on the plan. Council unanimously chose to support the Planning Director and Planning Commission in this matter.

Mayor took it on behalf of City of Forest Grove to sign a metro letter decrying violence in Charlottesville. Similarly Mayor signed a letter from the US Conference of Mayors on the same subject that will appear in some publications. Congressman Susan Bonamici spoke regarding transportation, affordable housing and tax credits to move it along, a variety of education issues including Headstart, and the overall infrastructure that need to be worked on.

Congress has a month to pass a continuing resolution to raise the debt ceiling or the government will shut down.

Questions:

- **Ms. Lindsley:** what was the discussion about Headstart?
Mayor: Headstart is on the chopping block for the President's budget. Other items that would be effected by zero funding or drastically reduced funding include; transportation package (Fast Act), various education programs (Pell Grants & Headstart) and the Community Development Block Grant.
- Clarification on the homelessness work session. Acceptance of the Affordable Housing Report was on the schedule but the council ran out of time. It will be addressed at the next meeting. After the report is accepted different strategies will be assessed to see what is most appropriate for the City of Forest Grove. Once this is complete it will be brought to the council.

5. STAFF REPORT:

Mr. Holan –

The City of Forest Grove attorney gave parameters as to laws regarding email communication involving commission business.

1. When a quorum of the commission is involved.
2. Deliberation on commission activities.
3. Decisions being made.

Any of these activities done outside of a noticed public meeting would be a violation. Mr. Holan shared a power point presentation on the renewal of Levy Measure 34-276. This levy renewal will be on the November ballot. It supports essential services for the City of Forest Grove.

Mayor Traux: The levy will maintain the current levy and will not increase. It costs a little over a dollar a day to support city services.

Mr. Holan: Council approved AFSCME contract to provide additional compensation for Spanish speaking employees. This will be retroactive to July 1st, 2017.

City of Forest Grove has hired new Community Development Director, Brian Pohl. Dan Riordan will cover until Brian starts.

6. UCC CHURCH MINI-GRANT:

Ralph and Elena Park (CEP Applicants)

The commission could not accept a motion to approve grant request without a quorum. Will address the applicant's motion at the next Sustainability Commission meeting or hold a mid-term meeting with quorum to approve the request.

7. CURRENT PROJECT PLANNING: KNOWLEDGE PUB

Continued organization for the next pub.

- Mr. Rose and Mr. Taylor meeting to put together timeline during September.
- Tabitha Merten, Jen Coleman, and Susan McLane are favorable to be guest speakers on the topic of Air Quality at the next pub.
- Provide guest speakers with option dates for the next pub (Oct 18th/ Oct 25th).
- Decision on date of the next pub deferred to the next commission meeting.
- Does the commission need more time to prepare? Pubs are currently being held quarterly.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:

Latinex – The people on the CCI committee would like a name that is more familiar to them. They would like it to be “Latino”. Devon with CCI is organizing events. CCI is trying to create a committee with a variety of people, who have a part in the community and will determine the content of the events. Commissioner Rose will be handling Latinex communications.

Mini-Grants – The program has funds to issue to possible projects. The commission needs get the word out. The grant should be marketed as much as possible. The deadline to apply and accomplish goals with grant funds is June 30th, 2018.

Coalition of Homelessness – This event was held on August 8th as an educational forum. Representatives from different agencies and organizations were present to show support. Work is being done to draw in more partners to take action in this community centered response to the issue of homelessness. The intention is that by the next shelter season there will be new and more partners to support the needs of the community.

Lexicon of Sustainability – Mr. Taylor proposed ideas for usage.

- Store Fronts or Booth Displays
- Birds & Brews
- Sidewalk Chalk Festival
- Public Schools
- Library

Bike Share Program – Bike Share’s orange bikes were present at the David Hill roundabout grand opening. Mayor Traux took a ride around the new roundabout. There is still a need to fundraise \$6,000 to go with the CEP grant. One idea to scale project costs down is to use a bike library. Users can check out a bike for a day. Three locations are currently on board with the idea of a library bike rack at their locations. Mr. Taylor is working with Westside Transportation Alliance to get help with designing promotional information and finding other grant money. There is a hopeful project launch date of May 2018.

Solar Power – Ms. Lindsley and Mr. Taylor met with Keith Horman, head of light and power for the City of Forest Grove. It was recommended that the commission put together a presentation for the City Council on efforts to implement solar energy for Forest Grove.

Mayor Traux: It is the Sustainability Commissions job to continuing to bring this issue and other issues like this to the council until action can or is taken. Although the City of Forest Grove is not addressing this issue immediately the commission is encouraged to continue to research possibilities and present them to the City Council for consideration.

Chair Taylor: Jon Holan has been tremendous. Thank you.

9. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS:

- Latino Summit
- CEP Grant for Shelter Run Event, Elena Parker.
- Knowledge Pub

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Sustainability Commission meeting will be Thursday, 9/29/2017 at 6 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Kent, Administrative Specialist
City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission:

Date: September 28, 2017