

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

THURSDAY, August 25, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.

Councilor Victoria Lowe

Brian Schimmel, Chair
Deke Gundersen
Hope Kramer
Robin Lindsley
Elaine Cole
Leslie Applegate Lanzar
Diane Taniguchi-Dennis

Dale Feik
John Hayes
Edgar Fausto
Karin Pfeiffer-Hoyt
Mitch Taylor
Jacob Rose

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CALL TO ORDER:

Sustainability Commission Present: Chair Brian Schimmel, Robin Lindsley, Edgar Fausto, Elaine Cole, Mitch Taylor, Deke Gundersen, Dale Feik, John Hayes

Excused Absence: Hope Kramer, Karin Pfeiffer-Hoyt, Jacob Rose

Absent: Diane Taniguchi-Dennis, Leslie Applegate Lanzar,

Council Present: Councilor Victoria Lowe

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

Guests: Melanie Estrada, Cecelia Warner, Lyle Spiesschart, Elena Parker, Ralph Brown, Aaron Feik, Tim Rippe

Introductions: Pacific U. project pipeline, Center for a Sustainable Society. Not in attendance

1. REGULAR MEETING: Chair Schimmel called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS: Chair Schimmel introduced Lyle Spiesschart a local county resident at 3150 NW Thatcher Road. Mr. Spiesschart, I'm here tonight to discuss the unnecessary glare and light trespass from Forest Grove owned PUD lights (see letter). I originally raised concern in an email to George Cress on August 1, 2016. I received an interoffice communication from Keith Hormann on August 11, 2016. Copies of both communications are attached. As a result of my continuing concern I would like to address the

Commission this evening. My main concern is the light glare at night emitting from my neighbors new LED lights. The lights I'm concerned with are from my neighbors rental lights that trespass the night sky. I'm asking for direction to see if the Commission is the right place to raise this concern. As indicated in this letter I'm requesting the new light have a shield to prevent the glare. The light that bothers me the most is the light at Purdin and Thatcher Road..

Chair Schimmel, I will connect with Mr. Spiesschart after I reach out to City staff concerning City policy. Maybe we can reach a solution to what you're asking for.

Councilor Lowe, I'm concerned with the glare of the night sky.

Commissioner Hayes; the new lights at the high school are directed downward towards the playing field.

- 2. CONSENT AGENDA:** Chair Schimmel asked for amendments or additions to the minutes of the July 25 meeting. Minutes approved by consensus with minor edits..
- 3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:** Commissioner Feik, I want the Commission to support the 'letter to the editor' entitled "City Council failing to lead charge against air pollution". Mayor Truax recently won a state award due to some extent from our work toward environmental sustainability.

Commissioner Gundersen, I would like feedback from Council, what are their thoughts on the letter of concern we sent them; what do they think about it. Chair Schimmel asked Councilor Lowe if the Council discussed the letter at a Council meeting. Councilor Lowe said no, they did not discuss the letter. If you are asking for a response back from Council, these requests need to go through the City Manager. These issues must be looked at for any legal concerns that might be a problem for the City.

- 4. PLUS/DELTA:** no additions or deletions
- 5. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:** Councilor Lowe, I have requested a Council work session to cover the two recent letters submitted to them. The Council response is not known to me yet. Mr. Holan, City Manager VanderZanden will place as an agenda item, a work session for the Commission to cover their Work Plan. Chair Schimmel, for clarification, we have two letters that the Commission requested to be placed on the Council agenda, they are; climate change letter and the Mayor's response to it, we ask Council to give serious consideration to the questions raised in the letter, and the Council to consider a proclamation or resolution in support of the 21 Youth letter. Mr. Holan, for further clarification, a Councilor can request at least ten days prior to a Council for an item to be placed on the agenda or a Councilor can request an item be placed on future agenda at the Council meeting. Mr. Holan, it is my understanding to date, a request has been made only for a work session covering the Work Plan. Chair Schimmel, the minutes of July 28, 2016, state, Commissioner Feik made a motion to accept the "21 Youth" document asking Council to express their support by proclamation or resolution. Councilor Lowe to process the request to be placed on the Council agenda for consideration.

- 6. STAFF REPORT:** Mr. Holan, a Council work session was held earlier this month on ‘affordable housing’. Staff recommended creating both a technical advisory committee and a citizen advisory committee. Staff also recommended asking for a volunteer from the Commission to attend the advisory committee meeting, maybe 4 meetings over a one year span. In regards to Latino services, the City manager will meet with Bridgit Cook to discuss topics of concern coming out of the last Summit, i.e. follow up with Police Chief Schutz.

In addition, the Commission’s By-Laws need to be amended, Councilor Taniguchi-Dennis requested to be removed as a voting member of the Commission. Mr. Holan, I recommend the Commission consider Clean Water Services become a non- voting ex-official member and that they consider amending the bylaws to allow for this action at their next meeting. Commissioner Lanzar resigned from the Commission as well. Chair Schimmel, at our next meeting will make an agenda item to discuss the recent vacancies.

- 7. PRESENTATION: Mini-Grant Application:** CEP mini-grant fund request for \$500 for the Run/Walk For Shelter! (see grant application). Proceeds from the event to benefit the severe weather shelter for the homeless. Ms. Parker, the Severe Weather Shelter is operated by the Forest Grove United Church of Christ and Sunrise Church who are advocates for low income housing. Grant funds to help offset 5K RUN costs; including equipment rental, awards, advertising, and refreshments. Ms. Parker, this project supports the vision of the Social Equity Plan. Ralph Brown presented information in support of the grant request. We are looking for at least 300 competitors. Grant funds to help low income folks especially children. Commissioner Hayes made a motion to authorize the CEP grant request for \$500 to offset the cost for the Run/Walk For Shelter event. Commissioner Gundersen seconded the motion, motion passes by voice vote. Chair Schimmel to work with Ms. Parker and Mr. Brown on processing the grant funds.

- 8. Presentation: Mini-Grant Application: ‘One Less’ Recycling Workshop.** Chair Schimmel, “One Less” Recycling Workshop now Recycling Expo is a program to inform the public about City’s Food Recycling program, material recycling alternatives and how to save on curbside service rates (see application). The Washington County Solid Waste and Recycling, Waste Management, Master Recyclers, and Adelante Mujeres are partners with this project. Grant funds will pay for “Poster” sponsorship with the Farmers Market and a 16 x 22 booth space for three events. Poster sponsorship will be leveraged with Farmers Market logo and other event marketing. Grant request is for \$500 and \$60 for other expenses. September 7 is the date for the event. Vice Chair Taylor asked for further discussion. Commissioner Hayes made a motion to authorize the grant request for \$560 and seconded by Commissioner Fausto. Motion passed.

- 9. TOPIC AREA: Reusable Bag Delivery.** How do we get the reusable bags distributed to multifamily units? Commissioner Hayes, there are more than 2000 bags remaining to be delivered I’ve asked a local boy-scout troop for help but they did not respond to my calls. Ms. Walstead, there are approximately 2000 kitchen pails remaining to be delivered as well. Discussion followed on suggesting ideas for delivery. Chair Schimmel

made a motion to allow for a \$500 stipend for a group to deliver the remaining bags. Commissioner Lindsley seconded the motion. Motion passed. A grant application after the fact must be submitted by the selected group. A deadline of September 30 for delivery of the bags was also set.

10. Topic Area: Sustainability Symposium. Commissioner Lanzar resigned from the Commission and she was the lead person on this topic. Commissioner Lindsley to report at the next meeting on her findings.

11. Topic Area: Solar Energy: Commissioner Lindsley handed out an article entitled “The Revolution is Now” and email summarizing the meeting with Mr. Josh Kopczynski, DPI Solar Inc. Ms. Walstead reported on the state wide initiative for community solar. The best opportunity for the City is incorporating community solar with an affordable housing project. The City has low power rates which can be a barrier for solar development which offers a higher priced power for our customers. Mr. Cress gave a brief summary of the City’s efforts on solar development and the recent site analysis for developing a commercial size solar array. Commissioner Lindsley to invite Mr. Kopczynski to a future meeting for further discussion.

12. Topic Area: Work Plan: What are our questions for the Council regarding their response letter. Chair Schimmel presented eleven proposed questions (see handout) to the Council in response to the Mayor’s letter. Premise to questions: anxious that the Council give greater consideration for impacts on overpopulation, food insecurity, pollution, loss of species, dependence on fossil fuels, and climate change in their decision making and prioritize time to address recommended remedies expeditiously (see handout for complete description of issues). Chair Schimmel, I believe questions 7-11 are the key questions. What are the Commission’s preferences for what questions to discuss with Council.

Commissioner Gundersen, I disagree, I’m concerned with question number 4. My main concern is that the Council read the letter and they understand the implications. We need to change how we do things. We need to inform the public that we’re serious. What do I tell my daughter? General discussion followed. Commissioner Feik, I support the questions. Vice Chair Taylor, I support questions 7-11, I believe if we force the issue we might alienate Council members. Chair Schimmel, by getting the answers to questions 7-11, I think the other questions will be answered through further dialog with the Council.

Chair Schimmel made a motion to support the list of 11 questions while documenting questions 7-11 be submitted to the Council for further discussion via Councilor Lowe. Commissioner Lindsley seconded the motion. Vote taken motion passed. Vice Chair Taylor, this vote does not preclude us to getting answers to questions 1-6.

13. Topic Area: Work Plan: Is there value in prioritizing Work Plan actions?

Chair Schimmel, we’ve adopted the Work Plan at last month’s meeting but we did not prioritize the actions. I’ve asked Vice Chair Taylor to lead the discussion. Vice Chair Taylor,

my passion concerns getting cars off the road, we've accomplished a lot as a group but are we doing the right thing. We need to focus on our mission, we need to prioritize and come to a consensus on what are the most important things we want to accomplish. Group discussion followed on how best to move forward on the Work Plan. A suggestion was made to start the regular meeting an hour earlier starting at 5:00 PM. A consensus of members agreed to start the next meeting at 5:00 PM. to prioritize the topics in the Work Plan. Staff to check on availability for meeting locations.

14. Topic Area: Pacific U. Pipeline: Commissioner Rose was not present to lead the discussion. Topic will be placed on a future agenda.

15. Topic Area: Work Plan: Are there additional actions prescribed in the Climate Change municipality recorded sessions? Chair Schimmel, are there things we want to add to the Work Plan from the recorded sessions. This topic will be added to a future meeting agenda.

16. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner Lindsley announced Nana Cordoon will be conducting a Food Forest Workshop October 22. Chair Schimmel, announced he will be making a presentation to the school board on October 25. Chair Schimmel will be discussing the accomplishments of the sustainability school projects over the last 18 months and future projects that might be undertaken. Commissioner Feik, the '21 Youth' case will be heard in Eugene on September 13. We are asking for \$15,000 in donations to help the 21 youth in their court case. This court case is my number one priority.

17.Future Agenda TOPICS: Next month's agenda to include; the staff memo on membership, Work Plan priorities, Pacific U. Pipeline, Mr. Spiesschaert LED light glare complaint.

18. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
George Cress, Director
Light & Power