

Climate Advisory Meeting Minutes

Date: September 06, 2018

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Roots Room, Cordata Community Co-op 315 Westerly Road, Bellingham

Members in Attendance: *William (Casey) Harman, David Kershner, Seth Fleetwood, Treva Coe, Eric Grossman, Derek Gremban*

Staff Support: *Chris Elder*

Guests: Kathy Sabel, Patrick Shive, Sandy Lawrence, Ally (check name), Clare Fogelsong

Meeting Began at 5:39 PM

Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion was made to approve the previous months minutes. No discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Guest comments were welcomed. No Comments

Discussion

- Derek will be retiring from the committee due to relocation.
- Patrick Shive, WWU intern, provided an overview on his Whatcom County emissions inventory work.
 - The highlights from the discussions:
 - Patrick provided a pie chart showing the Whatcom County usage. There are still a number of issues and interesting notes:
 - PSE has not provided information on Whatcom Country electricity use yet, so it was not included. Patrick has attempted to reach out again but had not received a response yet.
 - Food consumption was included in the chart. However, it was based on population and a national average per capita food consumption, not actual food use data from Whatcom County
 - Transportation is the highest category. Numbers of miles driven was provided by the Whatcom Council of Governments. There were questions regarding how this number is calculated. Average emissions of vehicles were provided by the EPA for 2017.
 - A question came up about process and fugitive emissions
 - Process emissions are upstream emissions from the refining process
 - Fugitive emissions are the methane emissions from natural gas pipelines.
 - Patrick will provide final report detailing all of this at end of his internship, which is Friday the 14th of September.

- Derek was concerned that there was limited information on the transportation emissions, so he moved to have a representative from Whatcom Council of Governments come to a Climate Advisory meeting and provide detail on how transportation numbers are generated.
- Seconded, motion passed unanimously
- Casey asked a question regarding double counting industrial emissions, since there is an attempt to include scope 3 emissions (which are upstream) and industrial emissions within the county. Patrick to ask ICLEI
- There was discussion regarding newer and older methodologies for calculation of emissions. The overall consensus was to use same methodology as 2007 plan in this emissions inventory, and then also include numbers with the more current emissions methodology for comparison going forward.
- Clare Fogelsong from the City of Bellingham answered some questions regarding the City's Climate work.
 - There will be a liaison between the Bellingham Climate task force and the Whatcom County Climate Advisory committee.
- Seth then began discussion on Planning needs for 2019
 - The committee needs to determine its desired funding going forward and submit it to the county council very soon.
 - For comparison, the City of Bellingham has hired interns and Kulshan Services to prepare their emissions inventory. Kulshan Services has also offered the Whatcom committee those services to finalize the emissions inventory and to finish the climate action plan.
 - The City of Bellingham also has personnel to shepherd the climate action plan, which current the county does not
 - Committee members will look into crafting a budget item and report back to the larger committee at the next meeting.
- There was some initial talk of the adaptation plan, in particular whether it should be included in the climate action plan or be separated. Some opinions were expressed, but no decisions were made regarding this. A subcommittee is meeting to begin adaption discussions and will bring the topic to the larger committee at the next meeting.

Action Items for Next meeting:

- Final Report Presentations by Patrick Shive. He will send out the report before the next meeting. He is planning to attend the next committee meeting to go over the final report.
- The Report on Adaptation scoping report (Eric, Treva, David, Seth). This subcommittee will meet and provide a report on adaptation at the next meeting.
- 2019 Climate Action Plan Update budget request work.
- Chris will reach out to Whatcom Council of Governments to get clarification on transportation mileage calculations.

Meeting Adjourned 6:20 PM