

**CITY OF CALISTOGA  
GREEN COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**December 14, 2021, via Zoom at 3:00 p.m.**

**1. ROLL CALL**

Committee members present virtually: Chair Antoinette Mailliard, Vice Chair Kate Stanley, John Gleazer, Millie Pease, and June Knoblich. Staff members present: Brad Kilger, Jeff Mitchem, Samantha Thomas.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Chair Mailliard asked for an introduction from the City's new Planning and Building Director, Jeff Mitchem. Staff member Mitchem provided the committee with a background on his professional experience.

Chris Benz at Napa Climate NOW was in attendance and asked Chair Mailliard to announce the news. Chair Mailliard explained that Napa Climate NOW gives out climate excellent awards and announced that the Calistoga Green Committee has been awarded a 2021 Climate Champion. The committee will receive coverage in the papers and there will be an award ceremony – the committee has been honored for the work they've done.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Update on Leaf Blower Outreach Program and Rebate Application Forms.

Chair Mailliard informed the committee the rebate application forms are with city staff to revise as they will be distributed by the city. She further explained that the request to require local residents to turn over their gas-powered leaf blowers when accepting the rebate would need to be reviewed by legal first. Staff member Kilger informed the committee that the request may need to go to Council to approve the request formally versus privately. Committee member Gleazer provided an update on pricing and layout for the leaf blower flyers and signs. Staff member Thomas indicated she would connect with city staff regarding the number of flyers needed for inserts in the utility bills. Committee member Pease requested an additional 142 flyers for the one mobile home park that does not have a newsletter as mobile home parks don't receive utility bills. She updated the committee on the proposed signs and associated pricing, similar to what Yountville used. She proposed utilizing yard signs versus large signs in front of city hall. Staff member Thomas presented the signs Yountville used for the committee to view what the city could utilize for their own leaf blower ban. Chair Mailliard indicated that Mayor Canning recommended as the city gets closer to the July 2022 date, they use the sign near the entrance to town be utilized as advertisement for the leaf blower ban that would be going into effect. Vice Chair Stanley offered her expertise to design the signs and flyers, and committee member Gleazer provided some examples of flyers from other jurisdictions.

Staff member Thomas provided a brief update on the press release that will be going out in January 2022 to the two mobile home parks and requested committee input on including the press release in the Calistoga Tribune. The committee wanted to confirm

the city would be ready to receive applications by January 3<sup>rd</sup> prior to including an item in the Tribune. Chair Mailliard indicated her only concern was that staff only pick one image for all outreach documents and confirmed that these documents would come out of the committee's budget. The committee agreed to come up with a final design for the flyer for staff's approval and distribution. Committee member Gleazer requested the city create a web page specifically for the leaf blower ban. Staff member Thomas explained that staff could upload the rebate applications to the city's web site but that creating it's on web page is dependent on staff time as staff is responsible for updating the city's website – the city does not have a designated web master. Staff member Kilger would like staff to look into what would be required to create a web page specifically for the leaf blower ban as he believes it's something the Council would like to see but agrees with staff that they should understand what would be required prior to implementing. Committee member Gleazer clarified that the outreach areas include the mobile home parks, utility bill customers, and a possible circulation with the UpValley Family Centers who may allow the city to include a flyer in their newsletter. Chair Mailliard indicated that for a fee a flyer could be included in the Tribune for one week as well, and that the signs could be addressed at a later date.

Vice Chair Stanley recommended connecting the outreach communications with the four areas (climate change related) she mentioned at the last meeting and including a positive spin regarding the banning of gas-powered leaf blowers. Chair Mailliard agreed and recommended committee members Stanley and Gleazer connect to work out the language. Committee member Pease asked that staff member Thomas upload the applications to the city website by January 3<sup>rd</sup> as the newsletter will be going to the two mobile home parks in January 2022, where some residents may take the city up on their offer right away. Staff member Thomas indicated that staff discussed internally that since it is a requirement for businesses to have a Calistoga business license when working within the city limits, if a commercial operator would like to receive a rebate, they would be required to have a business license as the rebate is provided via city monies. Committee member Pease inquired what the turnaround time would be to obtain a business license and a rebate. Staff member Thomas clarified she would need to check with the finance department.

#### B. Update on Foodware Ordinance.

Committee member Pease gave a brief recap of what the foodware ordinance entails as well as an update on its current status to the committee and staff members. She explained that Napa Climate NOW presented the ordinance to the CAC who had a lot of questions and requested they gather more information from restaurants and the Chamber of Commerce/other business groups regarding their reaction to the ordinance. Committee member Pease asked committee members to review the summary of the ordinance that was distributed to the group back in July and bring any feedback to the next meeting. Committee member Gleazer inquired briefly about the Green Biz Tracker/Green Business Certification.

#### C. Continue 2022 Goals Setting Discussion.

Chair Mailliard reintroduced the 2022 committee goals and indicated that City Council is not interested in having the Green Committee's input on the Fairgrounds. She reiterated that updates to the building code are driven by state rules, so the committee would have little input on this, and that the Climate Action Plan update would be addressed by staff via the hiring of an outside consultant, although the committee would be able to provide input. Chair Mailliard explained that the current priority list

would not exclude other ideas that present themselves over the next year and that for a group that's only been established for 6 months, has accomplished quite a lot in that short time frame. She clarified that a majority of the work has been completed outside of the committee's monthly meetings and is proud to be a part of such a stellar group of individuals.

Chair Mailliard went on to discuss the status of the leaf blower and foodware ordinances; participation in Earth Day; and the education in schools and climate literacy which committee member Knoblich will present on in either January or February. She inquired from the committee members if there was anything they wanted to add or subtract from the list. Vice Chair Stanley clarified that she believes the Green Committee should somehow be involved with Earth Day as it may look odd if the committee isn't and reiterated the committee's goals should align with the 4 global emission sectors in addressing climate change. She recommended putting an ad/flyer in the local paper(s) regarding Earth Day rather than organizing an event – committee member Pease agreed with this idea.

Committee member Pease inquired about the number of public electric charging stations and what category that would fall under. She thought this should be one of the committee's goals to increase the current number from one. Staff member Kilger indicated he believes there is another charging station in the works but asked staff to doublecheck with Public Works and report back.

Staff member Thomas clarified that the only participation the city has done in the past in regards to Earth Day is a Safety Day in April per the Recreation Director and then the Chamber does a Wellness Week that ends on Earth Day. She indicated the committee could be involved with either of these events, but that the city has not put on a formal Earth Day event in the past. Committee member Gleazer provided some input for a possible Earth Day event and recommended an electric leaf blower contest/race for fun. Chair Mailliard recommended reaching out to Napa Climate NOW and other local organizations the committee could partner with for an Earth Day event.

Committee member Stanley asked Chair Mailliard to add to the goals list the 4 items/sectors that were brought up at the last committee meeting as a separate item: *natural gas, solid waste, electricity, and transportation*. Chair Mailliard added the 4 themes to the goals list and asked the committee to approve the list to be amended with the correct language when the time comes. She went over the list one last time for the committee's concurrence and the 2022 Goals List was approved unanimously.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Participation of Green Committee in City's Earth Day.

Chair Mailliard indicated this item was discussed previously during the meeting. She recommended the committee do a little research on how they should address Earth Day and bring info back at the next meeting to decide then who should take it on.

## **6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' IDEAS & REQUESTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

Committee member Pease reiterated that the items to bring back to the next meeting are the leaf blower ordinance, foodware ordinance, and education. Chair Mailliard confirmed that statement.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned around 4:30 p.m.