

CITY OF CALISTOGA
GREEN COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2022, 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: Jeff Mitchem, Samantha Thomas.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS (CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR)

The election of officers resulted in Chair Mailliard elected Chair and committee member Gleazer elected Vice Chair for the 2022 calendar year.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no public comments received, and no attendees.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee member Pease had a question for staff regarding an update on the cost of creating a website for the leaf blower ban/rebate program as well as information about a second charging station within the city. Staff member Thomas responded that she would follow up on these items and get back to the committee.

Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of Finalized 2022 Goals List.

Chair Mailliard briefly went over how the goals list was organized and status of each of the items. Vice Chair Gleazer asked staff member Thomas if the city had contacted landscapers regarding the leaf blower ban/rebate program. Staff member Thomas gave a brief update on the city's outreach efforts around the leaf blower ban/rebate program and indicated further information would be provided later in the agenda.

Committee member Stanley recommended presenting a lecture series for Earth Day/Week and offered to take it on. Committee member Pease recommended finding a sponsor and Chair Mailliard recommended to bring the discussion of Earth Day back to the group at the next meeting.

Chair Mailliard clarified that the Fairgrounds is a delicate subject both economically and politically and the Council is not looking for the committees input but the committee would like to remain informed. Vice Chair Gleazer thought it would be best to keep the Fairgrounds as an item on the goals list, more generally as open space. Chair Mailliard recommended changing the Fairgrounds item to Fairgrounds and Open Space on the goals list – the committee agreed.

Chair Mailliard briefly went over the recommendations for building code updates that the committee had discussed over the past few meetings. She indicated she's been in touch with a gentleman with experience in the field and would like for him to come talk to the group once she knows what the possibility is.

Chair Mailliard indicated that the Climate Action Plan is undergoing an update and the city will be hiring an outside consultant, subject to an RFP as staff member Thomas clarified.

Committee member Gleazer went over the benefits of roundabouts and requested information regarding the Petrified Forest Road Roundabout project. Staff member Thomas indicated she would request project information from Hamid at the City's Public Works Department and forward that information to the committee. Vice Chair Gleazer requested whether the Green Committee could be a participant in early designing of projects that are relevant to the committees' goals. Staff member Thomas indicated staff could investigate the mechanism that would facilitate this request.

Committee members provided brief formatting edits and amendments as discussed and voted unanimously to adopt the 2022 goals list (5-0).

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

Staff member Thomas provided an update on what outreach had been completed and next steps. She also provided a status on rebate applications received by the City. Staff member Thomas indicated she would obtain a list of licensed landscapers from Jovani (Finance Department) and work on sending letters out to those businesses within the next month or so.

Committee member Pease requested the turnaround time for business licenses and if those who are not legal residents are discouraged from applying for the business license. Staff member Thomas indicated she would follow up regarding committee member Pease business license inquiry and let the committee know what information she finds. Committee member Pease requested copies of leaf blower flyers to give to community members. Staff member Thomas confirmed there would be enough copies at City Hall for committee members to come by and grab a stack to distribute and that the City can reprint the flyer if needed. Committee member Pease requested staff keep a tally of applications and inquiries that come in – staff confirmed.

C. Update on Foodware Ordinance.

Committee member Pease provide a recap on where the foodware ordinance started and an updated on its status. She shared that a one-page summary of the ordinance is available on the Napa Climate NOW website. Chair Mailliard indicated that the summary is most helpful.

C. Update on Community and School Climate Literacy.

Committee member Knoblich provided an update on her discussions with school administrators regarding what the schools have done in the past around climate literacy and what they are currently doing. She indicated that prior to COVID, one teacher was spearheading the effort, but having left the school, and issues due to the current COVID situation, programs around climate literacy are on hold. Committee member Knoblich clarified that the school's current priority is to deal with the COVID situation and its effect on its students. She indicated there are no programs written into the school's curriculum around climate literacy – they rely on interest from the teachers. Committee member Knoblich indicated she would contact the Principal for the list of teachers that would like to be involved. Committee member Pease provided some recommendations and indicated she would share her contacts with committee member Knoblich.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' IDEAS & REQUESTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Committee member Stanley indicated she would like to add a lecture series discussion about Earth Day to the next meeting agenda. She also indicated she spoke with the Calistoga Tribune regarding adding a column in the local paper addressing what Calistoga's can do in these four areas to help reduce emissions. Vice Chair Gleazer brought up the idea of the city sending invitations for EV charging stations in town. He further asked about the climate literacy program in the schools – whether it's a state or local program, and what the local board of education demands versus what the state demands. Committee member Knoblich addressed his questions. Chair Mailliard asked the committee to contact the City's superintendent of schools to get a clearer answer. Committee member Knoblich indicated she would. Committee members Stanley and Pease briefly discussed some ideas regarding holding an Earth Day event in the park and timing constraints. Committee member Stanley requested a report from the Chair regarding meetings she has attended on behalf of the Green Committee – the Chair agreed. Committee member Stanley indicated she would bring a report back to the committee at the next meeting on how to educate the public on four areas to reduce emissions in.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned around 4:38 p.m.