

Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Innovation (ACSI)

Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

MULTNOMAH BUILDING, 6TH FLOOR, ROOM 625



ACSI MEMBERS PRESENT

Loulie Brown
Beth Crane
David Heslam

Bradford McKeown
Mary Peveto
Roberta Robles

Ryan Vanden Brink
Jackie Yerby

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Rebecca O'Neil, Kimberlee Stafford, Douglas Tsoi, Michael Tynan

MULTNOMAH COUNTY LEADERSHIP/STAFF

Chris Fick, Government Affairs
Christine Lewis, Office of Commission Jules Bailey
Sam Baraso, Office of Sustainability
Tim Lynch, Office of Sustainability
John Wasiutynski, Office of Sustainability

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

None

Meeting Decisions and Action Items

Decisions:

- **ACSI members** present approved meeting minutes from April 8, 2015, July 8, 2015, and September 23, 2015.
- **Mary Peveto** selected as 2016 ACSI Chair.

Action Items:

- **Sam Baraso** to share summary of "brainwriting" exercise ahead of January 2016 ACSI meeting.
- **ACSI members** will spread the word about ACSI recruitment underway.
- **Sam Baraso** to share ACSI applicants with Jackie and Mary when available.
- **Tim Lynch** to make agreed upon changes to the affordable housing letter and repost via FMYI.
- **John Wasiutynski** to make agreed upon changes to the annual ACSI letter to the Board and repost via FMYI.
- **ACSI members** to consider becoming ACSI Vice-Chair at January 2016 meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Introductions/Announcements

- **John Wasiutynski** mentioned that the County Chair speaking at Home Performance Guild conference, endorsing establishment of GHHI chapter
- **Jackie Yerby** added that the Chair spoke at GoGreen conference, did a great job of connecting homelessness and climate change, creating a sense of urgency to deal with the issue.
- **John Wasiutynski** mentioned that the County adopted paid family leave policy, first in the state.

Brainwriting

- **Sam Baraso** led a "brainwriting" exercise to help shape ACSI's 2016 workplan. ACSI members wrote idea for 2016 workplan on notecards. Sam will collect ideas and share them as part of the planning discussion at the January 2016 meeting.
- **John Wasiutynski** suggested we share those via FMYI ahead of meeting.

Legislative Update

- **Chris Fick** provided an overview of the upcoming 2016 legislative session. Runs Feb 1 – March 6th, things move very quickly, members can only introduce 2 bills, committees can introduce 3. Bill must move out of committee in two weeks. November 24th legislative sponsorship deadline. Not expected a lot of controversial items. Lodging tax increase possible. Minimum wage likely deferred to legislative ballot. Currently min wage, RPS, clean fuels, right to work, education, lottery proceeds for veterans. County mostly looking at courthouse funding.
- **David Heslam** said that in 2016 there is work on legislation trying to get support for requiring the state not fall behind on national building code. State energy code 1-3 % behind federal standard. Feds update every three years, but state Department of Community Business Services sees 2022 as the next likely update. WA/CA are already ahead of OR code, OR will continue to fall behind. Building codes are statewide.
- **Loulie Brown** said Oregon has fallen behind the federal standard. Two cycles of code updates have gone by. State inertia is the biggest issue.
- **Jackie Yerby** asked if there a specific bill?
- **Loulie Brown** said Ken Helm on environment energy committee may introduce, but limited opportunity in this session.
- **David Heslam** added Ken Helm considering a bill as his second bill.
- **Chris Fick** suggested that it has to be legislatively approved.
- **Mary Peveto** said it was helpful to understand the timelines and influence points.
- **David Heslam** said federal law requires by Spring 2017 the state certify that state code is as strong as federal code. This would have to be start a process this coming Spring, or Oregon will fall out of compliance. Building Codes Division has the responsibility to enforce, under Department of Consumer and Business Services. Mark Long is the head of BCD, not a strong advocate for code revisions. Existing statute contains the “may” language from SB 79. Need to amend language as there is concern that the BCD may not. Working in 2016 session to put “must” language around meeting federal code. 2017 session will look to put additional instruction that code must be developed to meet the state/CAP climate goals. BCD could do it, or Governor could instruct it.
- **Chris Fick** said it is definitely something that the County can do.
- **John Wasiutynski** suggested that ACSI draft letter asking that the County encourage the state to exercise their authority to meet the federal code standards as a minimum.
- **Beth Crane** suggested also calling out the City/County CAP as well as state’s climate goals.

ACSI Chair Election

- **Jackie Yerby** thanked ACSI for the opportunity to be Chair. All present thanked Jackie for her dedication.
- **Mary Peveto** asked to be considered 2016 ACSI Chair. No other members present asked to be considered. Mary unanimously elected Chair for 2016. Vice-Chair to be selected at January 2016 meeting.

ACSI Recruitment

- **Sam Baraso** discussed the ACSI recruitment. One position is available. Discussed outreach completed and encouraged ACSI members to spread the word. Jackie and Mary agreed to help review the final candidate selection.

Affordable Housing Letter

- **Tim Lynch** reviewed the current version of the ACSI affordable housing letter, which incorporated feedback from ACSI members to date. All present discussed the current version, and voted unanimously to approve the letter with minor changes.

Letter to County Commissioners

- **John Wasiutynski** relayed that this was very well received last year, and the Board recommended that the ACSI letter become the template for advisory groups in the future.
- **John Wasiutynski** reviewed the letter to the Board from 2014 and highlighted the County’s response to these actions (See document: “County Update To 2014 ACSI Letter”). 2015 ACSI letter should recognize and thank the Board for actions it undertook that were part of the last “ask”. Call out appreciation that CPACE is moving forward and call for prioritizing the full implementation of the program. Recognize legislative/health work on clean diesel, divestment, and continued support of the Office of Sustainability. Possibly reiterate the importance of actions not yet completed, such as clean diesel contracting and extending ACSI participation to three terms.
- **John Wasiutynski** reviewed the draft ACSI letter to the Board and the “brainstorm” of priority opportunities from the September 2015 retreat:

- Need to push for an update to Oregon building code. Oregon is behind the national code and state Building Code Division (BCD) has indicated they may not update code until after the 2017 national code revision. It is BCD's discretion to do so. Considering pushing for Executive action to reconsider, or at a minimum legislative inquiry to put this decision on record.
- East County environmental justice work, with strong air quality tie and home health and weatherization work as an anti-displacement strategy..
- Accelerate move to develop a private lender model within CPACE program.
- Consider property tax benefit tied to energy scores (bill failed in 2014), as well as using property tax database to store energy performance scores.
- Green and Healthy Homes Initiative is being considered. It would bring together multiple programs/jurisdictions/partners to more effectively deliver home interventions. May include a budget ask for FY17.
- Incorporating green building in affordable housing by looking at the total cost of energy to occupants, as well as secondary benefits particularly health/air quality.
- Advancing the Climate Action Plan, including:
 - Prioritizing partnerships with Portland, East County partners
 - Energy performance scores
 - Address the cause of, and impacts from Urban Heat Island
 - Strengthening internal sustainability metrics to measure success, opportunities and tell story
 - Acknowledging ACSI as a key stakeholder on implementation, need for regular updates
- Address the data gaps, including downscaling to the neighborhood level to better understand the localized impacts and opportunities, e.g. better understand urban heat island. Need for better data as responders. We test water but not air quality except at a broad level. Partnership with PSU, etc.
- **ACSI members present** discussed the draft letter and voted to approve the content of the letter. All agreed to have staff redraft the letter based on meeting feedback and circulate via FMYI for final edits/review.