

Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Innovation (ACSI)

Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016

9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.



NEXT MEETING:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016

9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.

MULTNOMAH BUILDING, 6TH FLOOR, ROOM 625

ACSI MEMBERS PRESENT

Loulie Brown	Douglas Tsoi	Rebecca O'Neil
Kimberlee Stafford	Michael Tynan	Ryan Vanden Brink
David Heslam	Mary Peveto	Jackie Yerby
Ed Hill	Roberta Robles	

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Bradford McKeown, Beth Crane

MULTNOMAH COUNTY LEADERSHIP/STAFF

John Wasiutynski, OS

Tim Lynch, OS

Sara Harding Mihm, OS

Andrea Hamberg, Health Dept.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

None

MEETING DECISIONS & ACTION ITEMS

Decisions:

- 10/14/15 Minutes approved as amended.

Action Items:

- **Sara Mihm** to update 10/14/15 Minutes on website and FMYI site.
- **Sam Baraso** to share upcoming CPACE opportunities with group, including upcoming contractor trainings.
- **Sam Baraso** to follow up with **Ed Hill** about workforce equity partnerships around CPACE.
- **Ed Hill** described a regional-approach job training program from EPA's EJ office, Green Youth Job Corps, and requested this appear on the next ACSI agenda.
- **Tim Lynch** will send out a poll for a meeting in May regarding climate change work.

MEETING MINUTES

Introductions/Announcements

- **John Wasiutynski** is expecting a baby in early May (hooray)!
- **David Farrer** will be at the ACSI subcommittee on air toxics next week to discuss the new benchmark.
- **Art Williams** is to speak at OMSI on Thursday, 4/21 to speak on the STAR program (Louisville, Kentucky). **John Wasiutynski** will also be speaking at this event.

Sub-Committee Check in: CPACE Updates

- **John Wasiutynski** spoke on behalf of **Sam Baraso** to provide CPACE update.

- Back end operational details are currently in process.
- PDC hired a team to brand CPACE, renaming the program to **Property Fit**.
- Several ACSI members expressed concern that the program was no longer being marketed under the County's name. Being a publicly-backed program gives it credibility.
- Several ACSI members expressed concern that the interest rate was not explicitly stated on the contractor training sheet. They recommended changing the language "long term financing" to "preferred terms" to capture both length of loan and lower interest rates during the pilot.
- **Michael Tynan** encouraged staff to consult with finance experts to make sure language like "preferred terms" doesn't run afoul of any banking regulations.
- During pilot phase, MultCo is working with DMW firms. Ultimately, program will be opened to a private lender mode.
- Retained Sustainable Realty Solutions and have two upcoming contractor trainings to explain what CPACE is and how can contractors can use it to sell their services. Invitation extended to **ACSI** to attend the training and several members expressed interest in attending.
- This year's budget includes additional funding to provide tech assistance to contractors. This will help them to generate leads by evaluating commercial buildings and what potential savings on a project could be.
- Anticipating the first project deal within the next two months.
- Staff/ACSI members discussed the importance of addressing equity in which building owners are served, which companies are taking advantage of CPACE to grow their business, and how CPACE is supporting equitable workforce development opportunities.
- **Ed Hill** suggested a variety of community partner contacts that could benefit from additional outreach.

Sub-Committee Check in: Equitable Development Workshop

- **John Wasiutynski** briefed group on MultCo's participation with EPA's Making a Visible Difference.
- **Mary Peveto, Ed Hill, and John Wasiutynski** were on the Making a Visible Difference steering committee.
- A two-day workshop was held at Rosewood Initiative on March 9 and 10, focusing on the community needs of Rockwood/Rosewood.
- Workshop included listening sessions with community members and was attended by local bureaucrats.
- A draft report from EPA's hired consultant has been received, which includes outcomes and next steps to create a more equitable Rockwood/Rosewood.

Sub-Committee Check in: Quality Affordable Housing

- **Tim Lynch** is working with **David Heslam** and other interested ACSI members.
- **Tim Lynch** is hoping to convene partners to determine most effective measures to be required for all affordable housing projects.
- **David Heslam** is researching housing development options to add most long-term value to a project, and to accurately portray the life cycle cost. Looking into Washington's life cycle tool and he hopes to bring the tool to Oregon as a best practice.
- **Kim Stafford** suggested the County bring influence on health issues associated with affordable housing.
- **Andrea Hamberg** requested that health cost to be included in a project's life cycle cost. She wants to focus on air quality and mold controls, and her office is in process of developing a short-term health plan.
- **John Wasiutynski** described the Vital Signs report about housing and its connection to an individual's overall health outcomes.
- **Rebecca O'Neil** suggests that we reframe the messaging so it would be obvious that a life cycle tool is deemed necessary.
- All agreed that the County/ACSI can play an important role in reframing the affordable housing cost conversation around long term value.

Air Toxics Update

- **Mary Peveto** thanked the ACSI group and MultCo for all of the work on this issue. She said the conversation has been opened on air toxics in our urban environment. There's been a lingering gap; for example, glass manufacturing has the same gap as diesel. Massive chasms in federal Clean Air Act. Benefit of the work from group is the opportunity to make change despite continual failures of DEQ as an organization.

- **Mary Peveto** summarized Speaker Kotek’s involvement to ensure public comment during temporary rule-making process, interest in odor nuisance issues, and the Speaker questioning DEQs process around making determinations. We now have more people seeing that the process isn’t working.
- **John Wasiutynski** says there are more toxic hot spots in the area than we anticipated and more work is to be done using moss as a tool.
- Integration of high volume residential areas into areas where industry is located have created hot spots everywhere, with only those hot spots being identified where air quality monitors are placed.
- **Governor Kate Brown** announced Cleaner Air Oregon, a way for the Governor to coordinate between OHA and DEQ for an interagency response. Local air district can co-exist with state rule making.
- **Ed Hill** spoke from an equity perspective, recognizing the difficulties existing with “white-on-white” leadership on the topic and highlighted the even greater difficulty that communities of color and vulnerable communities face.
- **John Wasiutynski** provided a policy update, including the beginning phases of establishing a local regional air quality district. MultCo, Washington County, Clackamas, Metro have convened, as well as City of Portland, Hillsboro, and Gresham. MultCo will do feasibility study of a Regional Air Authority.
- **Governor Kate Brown’s** Cleaner Air Oregon is committed to health-based rules. Currently, if any pollutant is emitting less than 10 tons, there is virtually no regulation with the exception of a federal standard (National Environmental Standards for Hazardous Pollutants).
- **DEQ** is to open Rules Advisory Committee nominations in May. **Chair Deborah Kafoury** would like the Tri-County Public Health Officer to be on the rule-making body. This process is to be made public next week and is expected to receive a lot of public scrutiny.
- **John Wasiutynski** expressed that it should not be a consensus-based process and should have ability to act on advisory committee decisions.
- **Michael Tynan** stressed the need for members of ACSI to be a part of the committee.
- **Mary Peveto** suggested considering the STAR Program in Louisville, Kentucky. This program defined one pollutant and created a collaborative process where companies could create their own path to reduce emissions. Result of this methodology was a 95% reduction on the first pollutant targeted. Art Williams is coming to Portland to speak at OMSI on Thursday, 4/21 to speak on this topic.
- **John Wasiutynski** recognized Andrea’s team for stepping up and getting involved in the local air quality issues, including providing info to public and setting up public forums.
- **Andrea Hamberg** said public engagement has been a key part of County’s involvement: forums (with provided translation/food/childcare), insisting leadership from state agencies participate, making connection with community organizations, setting up community events, communicating with medical professionals in county and working with labs so that people have testing access and understand what the results mean. They’re also tracking data so people with detectable Cadmium results have follow up from MultCo.
- **Andrea Hamberg** continued to say that zero money is coming from the state legislature to fund environmental public health in Oregon and is instead funded entirely by the Federal Government. Occasionally, private foundations will fill gaps. Suggested that we need state funding for environmental public health to truly reach vulnerable communities.
- **Andrea Hamberg** said that one other key thing they’ve worked on is insisting that OHA and DEQ distribute resources that respects vulnerable populations (kids, elders, low income and those of color), and look at historical areas experiencing pollution.
- **Roberta Robles** asked why the conversation wasn’t about a complete overhaul of the agencies if there were so many obvious problems.