



**JOINT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 27, 2016**

**The Joint Sustainability Committee convened in a regular meeting on July 27, 2016 at Terrazas Library in Meeting Room 1 in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Jim Walker called the Board Meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Chair Jim Walker, Vice Chair Kaiba White, Tom Donovan, Adrienne Haschke, Nhat Ho, Fred McGhee, Joep Meijer, Roberto Rondero de Mosier

**City Staff in Attendance:**

Zach Baumer, Lewis Leff

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes were unanimously approved as slightly amended on Commissioner Meijer's motion and Commissioner McGhee's second.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

There were no speakers for citizen communication.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**3a. Annual internal review of Joint Sustainability Committee for the City Clerk (Discussion and/or possible action)**

Chair Walker presented his draft version of the annual internal review. Committee members adjusted some language and added new language to the goals and objectives section. Commissioner Meijer moved approval, Commissioner Ho seconded, and the document (as edited) was approved unanimously.

**3b. Discuss status and budget implications of Fayette power plant retirement (Discussion and/or possible action)**

The discussion began with an overview of the context by Commissioner Meijer, who proposed a draft recommendation. Staff provided the Austin Energy response to the questions raised in relation to this item from the Joint Sustainability Committee's Electricity and Natural Gas working group, and presented the relevant pages that outlined Austin Energy's position in the AE Rate Hearing Examiner's Report. Staff provided guidance about the timing of this item, and the Commissioners continued discussion about whether to move forward with this recommendation now or at a future meeting. After some further discussion on exact language for the recommendation, Commissioner Meijer moved approval, Commissioner McGhee seconded, and the item was adopted unanimously.

**4a. Consider support for potential City of Austin fall mobility bond package (Discussion and/or possible action)**

Citizen Scott Morris with the Central Austin CDC spoke about his organization’s work to develop a new rail proposal and request for Council to include this as an option on the fall mobility bond ballot.

Vice Chair White then gave an overview of her draft recommendation. Commissioner McGhee voiced concern about the size of the bond package and how that impacts future bonding authority, and the effect this bond proposal would have on some areas but not others in Austin. The Committee added additional language to ensure an equitable distribution of bond proceeds, and a commitment to have rail be an option but not to any one particular alignment. Commissioner Meijer moved approval, Vice Chair White seconded, and the recommendation passed unanimously as amended.

**4c. Staff follow up on Joint Sustainability Committee information requests (Energy codes, questions on phase 1 actions) (Discussion and/or possible action)**

City staff provided feedback on the outstanding questions from the Committee and working groups related to specific Phase 1 actions. Staff also provided an update from the Council briefing on the proposed FY17 budget. The Committee members asked some follow up questions regarding the proposed budget and potential metrics to ensure any recommendations for additional positions were shown to have a positive effect. There were questions raised about the impact of similar programs like ECAD, and whether that should be added to the next ACCP update. Further discussion was about the need for GIS work to process the impact of CodeNEXT results, and prioritization of staff needs. The Committee did not take action on this item.

**4b. Continued discussion on the Phase 1 Actions of the Austin Community Climate Plan, including a report back from the three working groups (Electricity and Natural Gas, Transportation and Land Use, Materials and Waste Management) to the full committee for possible budget recommendations to the City Council (Discussion and/or possible action)**

The Committee first discussed the energy code reviewer and inspector item, as drafted by Vice Chair White. After some adjustments to the Whereas clauses, Commissioner Meijer moved approval, Chair Walker seconded, and the item passed unanimously.

Then the Committee discussed the organics collection item. Staff showed the budget presentation slide that stated the proposed budgeted amount for implementing this program in FY17. The Committee discussed at length the “Be It Further Resolved” clause about the customer’s inability to opt out of the organics collection service and why this was necessary. They also discussed the timeframe for full implementation of the program. With some adjustments to the draft document’s language, Vice Chair White moved approval, Commissioner Haschke seconded, and the recommendation passed unanimously as amended.

The Committee discussed support of additional positions related to Transportation Demand Management in the Austin Transportation Department’s proposed budget. The committee agreed to this intent and for Chair Walker to provide final language on a recommendation. Commissioner Ho moved approval, Commissioner Rondero de Mosier seconded, and the item passed unanimously.

**4d. Commission members report back on any relevant discussions from their respective boards and commissions (Discussion and/or possible action)**

This item was not discussed.

**5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

This item was not discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Jim Walker adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m. without objection.