

Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

- Mission:**
1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
 2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
 3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
 4. Effectively address the future impacts of climate change

Members: Sandra Distelhorst, Hank Landau, Graham Marmion, Tony Marzano, Gary Ocher, Larry Pierce, Cynthia Pruitt, Josh Thompson, Barbara Tipton, Zen Wolfgang



Council Rep: Diane Buckshnis

City Staff: Mayor Dave Earling, Shane Hope, Rob Chave, Steve Fisher, Jen Machuga, Jennifer Leach

Meeting Agenda

March 3, 2016 @ 8:45 am

SUBJECT	ACTION/DISC./BRIEF.	TIME	Who
1. Check in & approval of minutes	Action	5 Minutes	Steve
2. Confirm 2015 accomplishments & transmit to City Council	Action	5 Minutes	Steve
3. Zero Waste Resolution	Action	5 Minutes	Subcommittee
4. Setting 2016 priorities	Discussion	30 Minutes	
5. Update on efforts for a carbon tax	Informational	10 Minutes	
6. Subcommittee/Top Priority Projects Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Green Resource Room b. Zero Waste c. Green Buildings & Sustainable Development (including Sustainable Heroes and Green Business Pledge) 	Informational	20 Minutes	All
7. Announcements	Informational	5 Minutes	All

Climate Protection Committee (CPC) January 7, 2016 – Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Cynthia Pruitt, Steve Fisher, Sandra Distelhorst, Tony Marzano, Rob Chave, Jen Machuga, Hank Landau, Larry Pierce

Meeting Start: The meeting was called to order at 8:45 am.

Approval of Minutes: Hank moved and Larry seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Note-taker: Cynthia asked for a volunteer to take notes for CPC meetings. Larry volunteered to be the regular note-taker.

“Thank you” to Jim Stevens. Jim Stevens is retiring at the end of the month. Steve created a card for the committee members and others to sign to thank Jim for his service to the committee over the years.

Elections: Cynthia discussed the duties of the chair-persons for the CPC committee and said it is time to appoint new chairs. Cynthia and Steve (the current co-chairs) both volunteered to continue as co-chairs. There were no other nominations so the group unanimously agreed that Cynthia and Steve would remain co-chairs for 2016.

Report on the “Prayers for Our Planet” March. Hank Landau reported on the “Prayers for Our Planet” (PfOP) candlelight march that took place in Edmonds on December 7, 2015. There were over 100 persons in attendance at the service and for the march, plus four pastors spoke to the group. All then walked from Edmonds Methodist Church to downtown Edmonds, where they were addressed by Mayor Dave Earling and Councilmember Johnson.

The coordinators of the PfOP group will meet again next week to discuss further action. Hank Landau stressed that this is not a religious organization, but rather a community effort to bring attention to climate change issues. Steve Fisher asked for a Hank Landau to write a synopsis of the event that can be included in the next city online newsletter, and Hank agreed.

Hank asked for the CPC committee members to be on the lookout for other opportunities and make suggestions for the PfOP group. Sandra asked Hank what the key messages from the PfOP group were. Hank responded that they were mostly motivated by the recent encyclical published by Pope Francis.

Letter to Legislature Regarding Solar Energy Incentives. Steve had prepared a draft letter to the state legislature regarding solar energy incentives that are due to sunset at the end of 2016. He asked if the committee would agree to send the letter forward which urges the legislature to extend the financial incentives for the installation and use of private solar panels.

There was some discussion on the increase in solar installations and their effect on incentive caps currently in place by the Snohomish PUD, the economics of such incentive programs, and the possibility of a future carbon tax.

The committee members agreed unanimously to send a draft of the letter to Mayor Earling first, before sending the letter to the legislature. Cynthia asked that each member provide their address to the letter to indicate Edmonds residency. All members in attendance added their address on the letter.

Larry asked for clarification that this letter is a draft and that we are not signing it now, simply providing our addresses for the final draft. Steve affirmed that was the case.

Review of 2015 CPC Accomplishments: Cynthia asked the CPC members to recall CPC accomplishments from 2015 and wrote down the list on large papers. Sandra agreed to write up a draft of the accomplishments in a document.

Edmonds Green Business Pledge Brochures: Tony has created a tri-fold pamphlet/brochure to present to business owners when approaching them regarding the Edmonds Green Business Pledge. The brochure contains images and language from the website. Tony asked CPC members to review it and give feedback on its design. Cynthia recommended that a copy of the brochure be given to Mayor Earling as well.

Tony indicated that he wanted to move on this project in the next few weeks, printing official copies for distribution to Edmonds business owners, and would like feedback soon, plus he would like to send the brochure in an email as well.

Sandra expressed concern that the pledge lacked language that specified exactly how businesses would align with the pledge and that it may be too easy for businesses to agree to the pledge without taking action. Cynthia suggested that this be an item on the agenda for the next meeting (discussion of 2016 priorities).

Subcommittee Reports: Green Resource Room: Steve Fisher indicated that despite setbacks, construction continues on the expanded Permit Counter area. Jen added that the whole room should be completed in about six more weeks.

Zero Waste: This subcommittee did not meet in December 2015, but had an online discussion of the draft Zero Waste Resolution. Cynthia asked if the resolution could be completed prior to Earth Day in hopes that it could be sent to Edmonds City Council before then. Steve said that he would need to get an indication from Council on the action status of the resolution.

Sustainability Heroes: Cynthia and Councilmember Mike Nelson interviewed Jim Stevens and a draft of the interview is being prepared for inclusion in the next online newsletter. Cynthia and Hank said that they would reach out to more Edmonds business owners to find the next potential “heroes”.

Announcements: Cynthia brought up the idea of the CPC meeting in a different room due to the large attendance at some meetings. After brief discussion, it was agreed that the CPC continue to have regular meetings in the Fortner Room and to possibly move to a larger room when attendance is expected to be larger.

Steve Fisher mentioned that the city’s website now has an announcement of the upcoming Sustainable Community Stewards training offered by the WSU Extension service.

Potential Agenda Items:

- 2010 Climate Action Plan – check in and review priorities;
- Zero Waste Resolution – further discussion of goal statements;
- Larry asked members to think of ideas to reduce the use of deli-style containers from local businesses – ideas that do not interfere with the state’s food-service laws;
- Larry will reach out to the Edmonds-Woodway High School (EWHS) “Save Our Salmon”/”Save Our Shorelines” groups and have a report on their activities for the next meeting;
- Cynthia indicated that it would be beneficial to have a student member of the CPC. Tony said that as a teacher at EWHS, he could help to look for potential student members. Hank brought up the idea of having occasional (once per year or more) meetings at EWHS to broaden involvement with the CPC.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 am.