

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



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~Minutes~

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Monday
December 11, 2023

6:00 PM

Mayor's Conference Room
206 E 3rd Street

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tina Hilding, Jeff Hicke, Mary DuPree; Al Poplasky; Nancy Chaney

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Kelli Cooper, Staff Liaison; Mac Cantrell; Elizabeth Stevens; Nick

Call to order 5:59PM

1. Letter to Home Depot

The idea has been brought up to write Home Depot about their upcoming build.

ACTION: Receive the report and provide feedback.

The letter will be ready for the Sustainable Environment Commission (SEC) to review at their next meeting. The group is hoping that after the SEC approves the letter, it will go to Council for final approval.

2. Community Solar Possibilities

Update on discussion with UI and other possibilities for a community solar project.

ACTION: Receive the report and provide feedback.

Tina met with Sarah Dawson, with U of I, to begin work on a community solar project. Kelli says there is land by the WRRF that would be a good option.

There is also talks about getting Avista involved in a solar co-op.

3. Implementation Plan Discussion

Further discussion around the implementation plan, next steps, and priorities.

ACTION: Receive the report and provide feedback

The group talked about an active Avista incentive to install gas energy to consumers. CAWG will talk to Paul Kimmel (Avista) about why this incentive is still active.

They are starting to go thru the list and determine the highest and lowest costs for each step in the plan.

4. Community News Column

February's column will be written by Al and Mac and will be centered around EV cars.

Kelli would like April's column to be focused on the Wyland Challenge.

Mac suggested a column on heat pumps, and Mary would like to write about transitioning from gas to electric, and the steps to make that happen.

5. Announcements/Other Business

December 13th League of Women's Voters will be talking about climate change.

Mary has been looking for home energy auditors in the area. There are courses offered online for around \$500. Avista offers this service, with a private contractor, but the wait is months long.

Citizen survey should be back for review December 31st.

Adjourn 7:06 PM

