Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Microsoft Teams meeting

Members Present

1. Kacy DeLong (KD)
2. Leitha Haysom (LH)
3. Pam Hubley (PH)
4. Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson (CBG)
5. Mathias Gebser (MG)
6. Karley Hewitt (KH)

Staff:

1. Jeff Merrill, Director of Planning & Development Services
2. Abhi Jain, Sustainability Planner

Call to Order (18:32)

Item 3 – Approval of Agenda (any other items to be added)

Moved by CBG, seconded by LH that the Agenda be approved.

PASSED unanimously.

Item 5.1 – Abhi Presentation on next steps

Abhi presented about the Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP)'s upcoming activities timeline:

- In current meeting, committee members will identify the leading department/stakeholder for action items respectively. In addition to that, members will also identify the tentative questions for respective leading department/stakeholder.
- On 18th October, staff will launch online community survey.
- In Last week of October, an email will be sent out to committee members a week in advance regarding the details on stakeholder engagement sessions including schedule and meeting invitation links.
- In November and December, there will no Sustainability Committee meeting
- In November, staff will conduct virtual stakeholder engagement session and on 20th November, a Public Open House will be held.
- In December, staff will prepare stakeholder and public engagement report, based on which in January's Sustainability Committee, action items will be prioritized.

Item 5.2 – Any new action items to be added and refine the list

Committee members suggested that engagement plan should be updated and following items could be added:

- Reach out to people without internet
- Reach out to farmers markets
- Send out information to community halls, fire halls
- Conduct Legion breakfasts
- Councilors can spread the word while staff can bring the required information to the meeting

Staff response:

- Will have a community-wide survey
- Provide primer
- Hard copies of primer and survey will be made available
- Postcard – handout with return address mail

Committee Members:

- Need a way for the public to follow-up with their ideas, utilize Engage.modl.ca
- Include feedback we have already heard on the website
- Speak to the auto dealers

Item 5.3 – Add leading department/stakeholders for action items respectively

Action item 1 and 2: PACE program (expansion & promotion)

- Credit check is a barrier – some are getting rejected while some might not have even applied because of it

Action item 3: Solar ready and energy efficiency buildings

- Why by 2025? Developers have long lead times on projects

Action item 4: Green affordable housing

- Combine it with action item 3

Action item 5: Education to homeowners

- Combine it with action item 2

Action item 7: Solar ready buildings (large building installation)

- Need to conduct solar site assessment for buildings that cannot install rooftop solar

Action item 8: Corporate green interior

- Drop the action item from the list

Action item 9: Commercial/Industrial PACE retrofit program

- Promote EfficiencyNS retrofit programs

Action item 10: Electric Vehicles (infrastructure)

- Add Mathias for the action item related work

Action item 12: Anti-idling policy

- May not be able to track emissions reduced from it but it's for education

Action item 13: Biofuel (vehicle fuel & buildings)

- Drop the action item from the list

Action item 14: Transport demand reduction (mixed land uses)

- Cross reference with MODL2040 plan

Action item 15: Carshare program (vehicles or e-bike)

- MODL could promote but not manage

- Partnership opportunity with the Towns.
- Encourage carsharing with friends
- Need the average citizen to buy-in

Action item 18: Transport demand reduction (increase in food security)

- Encourage local food
- Start as education and then evolve to community garden
- Reach out to farmers
- Add Economic Development to the lead/stakeholder list

Action item 21: Battery Banks/EVs in driveways

- For bi-directional charging purpose

Item 7 – In Camera

Motion to go in camera moved by PH, seconded by KH. PASSED
Motion to go out of camera by CBG, seconded by PH. PASSED

Moved by PH, seconded by KH that Deborah Conner's 2 month leave application be approved. PASSED unanimously

Item 8.2 – Tasks for next meeting

The action items list was refined until 21st action item. Abhi assigned homework for Committee members to provide feedback on the remaining action items from 22 to 42 respectively. Abhi will email the details to the Committee members.

Item 9 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 20:33, it was moved by CGB, seconded by PH that the meeting be adjourned.
PASSED unanimously.