

Mendocino County Climate Action Advisory Committee
Friday December 11, 2020 from 3pm - 5pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

- **Present:** Cathy Monroe, Marie Jones, Michael Potts, Shai Larsen, Susan Sher, Tess Albin-Smith, Ellen Drell, Randy MacDonald (*new member*)
- **Absent:** Jennifer Mayne (*resigned*), John Nickerson, Javier Silva, Mac Lojowsky, Raul Gardea

II. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- Members of the public on the call: Eileen Mitro & Michael A'Dair
- Lana Cohen representing KZYX
- Cathy Monroe inquired about the City of Ukiah's General Plan update and how that is addressing climate issues, and Marie Jones and the committee reviewed how jurisdictions use General Plans and Zoning Ordinances.
- **ACTION:** Add General Plan, Housing and Transportation Element discussion to the January agenda.

III. Climate Action Committee Introductions, Review of Agenda, and Consider Approval of Minutes from the October 18th MCCAC.

- A motion was made by Tess Albin-Smith and seconded by Cathy Monroe to approve the October 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes as written. The minutes of the October 18, 2020 MCCAC meeting were approved unanimously.
- **ACTION:** Shai Larsen to send minutes to the committee once complete.

IV. Discussion of Strategy for the Committee Presentation to the Board of Supervisors

- Suggested Agenda for a 15 minute presentation plus time for feedback and questions:
 1. Introduction (X minutes): Marie Jones will do the introduction, and Randy MacDonald will provide a presentation on the latest in climate change.
 2. Baseline Study (5 minutes): John Nickerson to present
 - NOTE: Randy would like to include solid waste in this analysis.
 - **ACTION:** Cathy to connect with John regarding this assignment as well as providing the committee with a visual on what we're working on to help us refocus.
 3. First Policy Recommendations (5-10 minutes): Michael Potts to present
 - Michael will present a condensed version of the document and will refer to the website.
 4. Grant writing (5 minutes) - Marie Jones to present

5. Feedback & questions.

- ACTION: Marie to put together a rough agenda for the meeting and send it around.
- Tess Albin-Smith discussed the MCOG and charging stations. Lana Cohen mentioned that the Board of Supervisors discussed this issue at their last meeting (reference: 06.29 minutes from the BOS meeting).
- Randy MacDonald suggested raising the issue of County staff support during the meeting as well as support for MCCAAC members meeting with Directors of specific departments.

V. Discuss Comment Letters from the Climate Action Committee re: Cannabis Ordinance; Oak Woodlands Ordinance; East Caspar, Simpson Lane and Woodlands Timber Harvest Plans and Provide Direction to the Chair (Action)

- Cannabis Ordinance (Ellen Drell): ACTION: Ellen to put together a draft letter to circulate to committee members. Marie expressed a preference for outdoor growing and urged us to take a stance of discouraging large indoor grows. Reminder to members of the committee to only email Ellen back to comply with the Brown Act.
- Oak Woodlands Ordinance (Tess Albin-Smith): Tess discussed the need for the County to look at the oak woodlands and how to protect them. ACTION: Tess to draft and circulate a letter for general support, including input and language from Ellen, for us to adopt in our January meeting. Reminder to members of the committee to only email Tess back to comply with the Brown Act.
- East Caspar, Simpson Lane and Woodlands Timber Harvest Plans (Marie Jones): ACTION: Marie to draft and circulate a letter focusing on the issues of a) carbon sequestration and b) segmenting under CEQA. This letter will be addressed to CalFire, and will copy the Board of Supervisions, the Fort Bragg City Council, and Fish and Wildlife. Reminder to members of the committee to only email Marie back to comply with the Brown Act.
- Randy MacDonald suggested the committee take positions in concert with allies such as the Sierra Club on areas of mutual interest and mission, such as carbon sequestration.

VI. Discuss Community Outreach

- Cathy Monroe discussed a MCCAAC website that's friendly for the public.
- Randy MacDonald suggested utilizing emails (via Mailchimp) to announce what we're doing and encourage participation.
- Eileen Mitro offered that Climate Action Mendocino has 300 people on their list. Could they sign our letters?

- ACTION: Randy to reach out to Walter and Elisha to attain the lists of participants and send the list to Marie.
- Group discussed putting posters around; Outreach Committee can address this.

VII. **Discuss Designating the Ukiah based Climate Action Group**

- Cathy Monroe, Eileen Mitro and Margot Frank have been spearheading this group.
- Committee explored ways to tangibly knit together our alliances. Randy MacDonald suggested looking to our individual networks to endorse the first policy recommendations document publically or with a letter.
- Eileen Mitro suggested including an option on mccaac.org to make it possible to endorse the first policy recommendations document.
- ACTION: Michael Potts to add this feature to the mccaac.org website.
- ACTION: Each committee member to seek letters of endorsement from allies, climate and other.

VIII. **Consider Identification of a Meeting Date for January (Action)**

- Our next meeting will take place on January 15 @ 3pm PT.
- Agenda items to include:
 - General Plan Update
 - Dry Run in preparation for the February Meeting
 - Review of the three comment letters

IX. **Adjournment (Action)**

- Reading / viewing commendations:
 - Secretary General of the United Nation's powerful climate address (includes a long list of policy recommendations)
 - Book: The Overstory
- Meeting adjourned @ 4:37pm.