

Climate Change, Energy, and Environment Commission (C2E2)
Draft

Summary of March 22, 2021 Meeting
Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Joan McIntyre (Chair), Liliana Duica, Carrie Thompson, Timothy Effio, Jonathan Morgenstein, John Bloom, Kevin Vincent, Stephen D'Alessio, Shawn Norton, Emily Emery, Gilbert Campbell, Mikaila Milton, Majdi Shomali, Joshua Griset

Guests: Judy Collins, Kendall Ernst, Doug Snoeyenbos

Staff Present: Adam Segel-Moss (DES), Joan Kelsch (DES), Demetra McBride (DES), Rich Dooley (DES)

1. Public Comment on General Topics

No comments.

2. 1212 S. Irving Environmental Assessment (6:15 – 7:00 p.m.)

This agenda item has been rescheduled to April 26, 2021

3. Budget Discussion and Letter Review / Approval (7:00-7:30pm)

The Commissioners engaged in robust discussion about the draft letter. Comments from Commissioners were captured in the amended letter. The letter was moved and approved unanimously.

4. SPRC Process Update and RCA Letter Review / Approval (7:45-8:00pm)

Carrie Thompson described the process they are suggesting for the SPRC review process. The Commission is considering a scoring system and a draft letter that can be tailored for each project. The scorecard focuses heavily on the energy issues. In a meeting with AIRE staff, the suggestion was made to ask the SPRC Chair to add "Sustainability/energy" to the SPRC meeting agenda to focus on the topic.

Currently, sustainability isn't an explicit focus of SPRC discussions. C2E2 feels that sustainability is often an afterthought. In reviewing a draft SPRC checklist for Commissioners to use, Ms. Thompson noted that some have expressed concern about including a numerical scoring system. Ms. McIntyre stated that we at least need to make sure we are consistent with scoring on all projects. Mr. Bloom noted that the "assessment" column isn't a numerical score (though can be translated into one) but it is helpful. He suggests adding an "insufficient information" option.

Mr. Effio suggested that scoring could be dropped but ranking should still be performed. He feels that the checklist should be added to the letter and should be based on consistent key performance indicators. In the end, Commissioners generally concurred that it was ok to score SPRC projects.

Ms. McIntyre suggested that office and multi-family may need to be broken out. Also, she suggested that attaching the checklist to the SPRC letter may not be a big value-add. Mr. Bloom noted that if it is going to be shared, then it should be shared at every step of the process with the SPRC, Planning Commission, Transportation Commission, and others.

Ms. Thompson suggested that the Commission is going to continue to refine this checklist. An internal group of Commissioners will review, refine, and bring forward an update for Commission discussion.

The Commission also discussed the RCA project and associated letter. The Commission amended and approved the RCA letter unanimously.

Finally, the Commission discussed the Potomac Land Bay C-East project. The Commission amended and approved the Potomac Land Bay C-East letter unanimously.

5. Meeting Minutes (8:00-8:05 pm)

The commission moved and unanimously approved the meeting minutes from February.

6. Old/New Business (8:05 pm - until)

Updates from Demetra McBride:

Rich Dooley is working on the energy resilience and reliability project with Cadmus.

Multi-jurisdictional discussions are occurring on electric vehicle procurement

The stormwater utility study of the phase 1 feasibility is complete and posted online

The Reed School vault MOU with Schools was approved by the Board

The Four Mile Run dredging was approved by the Board

LDA 2.0 – a significant public engagement will be launched to add a quantity element (tanks), increase from 1 inch to 3 inch the volume of rainwater stored on site, and preapproved engineering templates for projects to use to expedite projects. A tree element may be included in this to maintain trees.

The County is dealing with FEMA on the FIRMS maps to update them. FEMA has been unresponsive and aggressive about putting them in the floodway.

Tributary B is going before the Board for approval.

Ballston Pond is going out for bid.

Stormwater projects will be presented in the May meeting.

Applicants for the Energy Program Manager are complete by the end of the month.

Demetra noted that the AIRE workplan was sent on to the Commission.

The Roadmap is about to launch to integrate into CEPIF with more structure.

The Commission discussed contractors and possible conflicts of interest. Demetra noted that she will look at other options to complete the ART Bus study with other contractors. She will look at other procurement options for consideration at the May meeting.

Meeting concluded at 9:03 p.m.