



SAS Steering Committee

Tuesday, June 6th, 2023

5:30 PM

Hybrid – Council Briefing Center / Zoom
808 W Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA 99201

Virtual Meeting Link - See Below for Information

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Administrative Business – no oral public testimony will be taken

1. [Approval of May 2 and May 17 Minutes \(1 minute\)](#)
2. Presentation on General Facilities Charges – Marlene Feist (40 minutes)
3. Potential use of advisory groups in working groups – Larry Luton (5 minutes)
4. Vacancies on steering committee – Kelly Thomas (5 minutes)
5. Cancellation of July 4th meeting – Larry Luton (2 minutes)

Workshops – no oral public testimony will be taken

1. Presentation from Water Resources Workgroup (45 minutes)
2. Status of other workgroups – Larry Luton (5 minutes)
3. 2023 Workplan – Larry Luton (15 minutes)

Written Public Testimony

- All email addressed to the Steering Committee and sent to sas@spokanecity.org by 5pm Monday, June 5th will be distributed to the Steering Committee

Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 21st, 2023 6:00 – 7:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87476308813?pwd=NEFvTFBBWGNzbDFtS00wbWgzWXRBZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 7630 8813

Passcode: 798409

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kVmuc7OJb>

STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

City of Spokane

Sustainability Action Subcommittee Steering Committee (SC)

May 2, 2023

Call to Order: 5:35pm

Attendance

Steering Committee Members Present: Larry Luton, Naghmana Sherazi, Matt Hollon, Michelle Howard, Brian Henning, Ester Angell, Pragma Rai, Stacie Maier

Staff/Others Present: Kelly Thomas, Tony Newton, Kerry Brooks, Jim Hedemark, Luke Cashman, Linda Carroll, Lisa Gardner

Absent: Dave Garegnani, Erica Johnson, Jennifer Thomas, Mindy Howard, Rowena Pineda, Sarah Burruss

Note Taker: Tony Newton

Agenda Items

1. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. Any objections to the minutes?
 - i. Correction to the minutes- Rowena Pineda name correction
 - b. No motion needed. Minutes approved.
2. Chair Report
 - a. Ryan Lok submitted his resignation from the steering committee
 - i. In discussion about his replacement
 - ii. 3 members of the steering committee have resigned
 - b. EWU Urban Planning Event
 - i. 10am-10:45am by RJ Lot, City of Pullman
 - ii. May 10th
 1. Partnership Pullman and Commerce did to incorporate climate guidance into policy
 - c. Future Presentations
 - i. Presentation from the Natural Environment Workgroup on the May 17th
 - ii. Presentation from the Water Resources Workgroup on June 6th

- d. Spokesman Review Article- ["Celebrate efforts big and small to protect the environment"](#) by Jennifer Thomas as public affairs director for the Spokane Home Builders Association
- 3. General Facility Charges
 - a. Included in a resolution to be consulted on this subject
 - i. The city council is asking for us to look at this
 - b. What are items that we would like to be considered?
 - c. What things that people would like to hear in the presentation?
 - i. How are similar sized communities to Spokane, utilizing GFCs? Please provide examples.
 - ii. How would this protect low-income populations? How could this protect low-income populations?
 - iii. POINT OF ORDER
 - 1. There is a request from a non-steering committee member to record this meeting
 - 2. Previously been talked about and the group has decided that they will not record
- 4. Transportation and Land use Workgroup Presentation by Kerry Brooks and Linda Carroll
 - a. If there is substantial overlap, it has a higher priority
 - i. Recommendation that the committee consider which priority items have substantial overlap across the workgroups
 - b. Priorities are linked to the SAP (insert copy of spreadsheet Kerry mentions)
 - c. Questions
 - i. Where can community gardens fit into the priority items?
 - ii. What are the 3 quick items being recommended?
- 5. Working with Workgroups
 - a. Advisory vote
 - i. Workgroup needed to have a discussion prior and have agreed to a collective position. The group should select who the spokesperson is.
 - b. 5-point voting system
 - i. Majority and minority reports contribute to more nuanced discussions
- 6. 2023 Workplan
 - a. How to align the recommendations with the budgetary cycles that occur? From a local, state, federal level?
 - b. What is the timeline for when the committee is recommending actions?
 - c. Copy of the workplan will be provided to the group

- d. Which equity group?
 - i. Environmental Justice and Equity Workgroup, currently managed by Lisa Gardner
 - 1. Does the EJEW remain within the SAS?
 - ii. Equity Subcommittee is managed by Alex Gibilisco

Adjournment

.Meeting adjourned at 7:01pm

Prepared by:

Tony Newton

Approved by:

SAS STEERING COMMITTEE REGULAR STUDY SESSION
City of Spokane
Sustainability Action Subcommittee Steering Committee (SC)
May 17, 2023

Call to Order: 6:02pm

Attendance

Present: Larry Luton, Naghmana Sherazi, Pragya Rai, Mindy Howard, Matt Hollon, Brian Henning, Rowena Pineda, Kirsten Angell, Mike Petersen

Staff/Others Present: Kelly Thomas, Tony Newton

Note Taker: Tony Newton

Agenda Items

1. Natural Environment Group

a. GOALS

- i. Goal 1- Establish partnerships with community organizations and agencies to leverage funding and invite community input
- ii. Goal 2- Build awareness and engage the community in Natural Resources stewardship
- iii. Goal 3- Increase urban tree canopy and climate-adapted plant landscapes
- iv. Goal 4- Protect and build climate resilience in natural spaces within Spokane

b. PRIORITY ACTIONS

- i. Develop a Green Corps Program (or similar program) to generate citizen volunteers trained to implement planting, monitoring and maintenance phases of PLANT Ordinance City
 - 1. Parks does have an interface for community members to sign up for volunteer opportunities. This can help build the foundation for expanding volunteer opportunities
- ii. Incentivize establishment of native, climate-adapted plantings
 - a. Spokane Ponderosa 100,000 tree planting partnerships, on City Parks
 - b. Department of Transportation roadways and commercial properties

- iii. Assess opportunities for citizen science work to contribute to a database that can be accessed to better understand ecosystem health and management needs within natural areas

c. QUICK ACTIONS

- i. Collaborate with Parks to develop a collaborative, volunteer-based effort to create pollinator pocket gardens in four parks, one in each quadrant of the city
 - 1. A lot of existing community support and existing pollinator network, pre-COVID
 - 2. Sky prairie pollinator park
 - a. (3 weed parties organized)
 - b. Lack of dedicated staff
- ii. Create a Master Planting Plan to increase City's urban canopy from 23% to 40% cover by 2030; equity framework to prioritize low-canopy and low-income neighborhoods
 - a. GIS analysis and review of inventory to determine planting areas
 - b. Removing regulatory obstacles to increasing urban canopy
 - c. Citizen engagement to plant residential and commercial properties
 - d. Ted Henson has volunteered to work with the City to help create a tree plan using GIS data
- iii. Spokane Urban Nature and Spokane Parks Department work to identify key natural lands and ensure they are protected

d. PRIORITIES

- i. Create opportunities within K-12 education, colleges, and universities for students to contribute input and service work to City natural resources programs and projects
 - a. Seattle has Youth Green Ops program that pays and trains youth
- ii. Support regional conservation and restoration of natural areas and corridors
- iii. Prioritize evaluating biodiversity within City Natural Areas so that at-risk species and habitats are protected through focused management actions
- iv. Assess opportunities for citizen science work to contribute to a database that can be accessed to better understand ecosystem health and management needs within natural areas

- v. Spokane Urban Nature and Spokane Parks Department work to identify key natural lands and ensure they are protected
- vi. Looking to future needs
 - 1. Funding
 - 2. Support from city administrators and staff
 - 3. Leadership moving forward

e. Questions and Discussion for steering committee

- i. [WCCN](#)
 - 1. Potential resource/organization/funding that can assist some of the priorities/goals
 - 2. Specifically for overburdened communities
- ii. Maintenance on street trees? Is there data that is accessible?
- iii. How can residents in extreme heat communities be engaged with?
- iv. How do we engage with youth around tree planting?
- v. How to create a youth volunteer program that is inclusive?

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Prepared by:

Tony Newton

Approved by: