

SAS STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes

August 1, 2023

Call to Order: 5:30 pm

Attendance

Chair Larry Luton, Council Sustainability Initiative Manager Kelly Thomas, ~~Esther Angell, Sarah Burruss, Ian Cunningham~~, Dave Garegnani, ~~Brian Henning~~, Matt Hollon, Michelle Howard, Mindy Howard, ~~Staci Maier~~, Rowena Pineda, ~~Pragya Rai~~, Naghmana Sherazi, ~~Jennifer Thomas~~

Agenda Items

Minutes of June 6, June 21 and July 19 were approved with no corrections.

Chair Larry Luton reviewed that he gave a report to the PIES Committee on July 24 that the Steering Committee has now received reports from 5 of the 7 workgroups. Kelly Thomas was announced as the appointed permanent Sustainability Initiatives Manager.

Discussion of Letter of Support for GFC Charges: roundtable discussion about writing a letter of support from the Steering Committee to City Council. Steering Committee members are largely still reviewing, and some need to get caught up. Questions/comments so far: arguments are compelling from a sustainability standpoint; they make sense; consider low-income population and new affordable housing; what prompted this (Council requested it, and charges hadn't been reviewed in 20 years, neighborhoods want and need infrastructure development); what would be our rationale for supporting it; this would standardize things better; we've addressed the unintended consequences; how do the rate increases help in saving water; who's responsible for the cost increase. Steering Committee agreed to revisit this in the September meeting and have another workshop discussion at that time. A question was asked if they are already in place, but they are not. Marlene Feist (Public Works Department Director) is still gathering feedback and doing outreach internally and externally.

Discussion of Workgroup Priorities and Next Steps: A brief review of each of the workgroup priorities based on a summary from the Chair (attached). Kelly will flesh out the details in the Chair's summary and distribute. Between now and September, we will treat this as a poll, and each of the Steering Committee members will consider them and have 5 votes, or suggest something else entirely. A question was asked whether we could categorize the priorities in terms of which ones are actually feasible? broadly supported? challenged? We need to deal with the equity consideration process *before* we prioritize these. Another perspective: all steering committee members were chosen for their expertise in their areas. So, wouldn't City Council and PIES already be running these through their equity assessment?

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Prepared by:

Kelly Thomas

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ron Amner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and a long, sweeping underline.