



City of Woodland

**SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 15, 2021
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Mark Aulman, Rolf Frankenbach, Liza Grandia, Allison Martin, Catalina Munoz, Sara Schremmer, Adelita Serena, Raul Tadler, Robert Ullrey

Absent: None

Staff Present: Ken Loman

Guests Present: Robin Datel

3. Public comment

Robin Datel, facilitator of the Climate Crisis Action Team of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis, spoke to the committee regarding participation in the Climate-Safe California campaign created by The Climate Center in Santa Rosa. She provided written notes documenting her remarks, which are attached to these minutes. (NOTE: information about the Climate-safe California campaign is available at theclimatecenter.org/climatesafeca).

4. Member reports (Information Item)

Serena: Adelita noted that she emailed committee members asking them to consider endorsing the Climate-Safe California campaign. She also noted that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted today to phase out oil drilling in LA County (<https://apnews.com/article/business-environment-and-nature-los-angeles-race-and-ethnicity-science--44281791abf5e85c04a852ce7ce95e02>).

Ullrey: Robert attended a conference on climate resilient housing policy hosted by the Institute for Local Government, including speakers from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. A key topic was fire and speakers highlighted a Web site (sitecheck.opr.ca.gov) that uses GIS data to identify issues at parcel level. Robert also noted that southern California appears to be ahead of us dealing with adaptation issues.

Munoz: Catalina noted that the United Nations Associations in California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii are hosting a climate forum on expectations for the upcoming COP26. Information and session recordings are available at www.unawestclimate.org.

Martin: Allison noted that Senator Dodd is hosting a Virtual Town Hall at 6:00 PM on September 21 on Climate Change, Environmental Stewardship, and the Drought featuring California Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot. Information and the recording of this and Senator Dodd's other virtual meetings are available at

<https://sd03.senate.ca.gov/video/20210921-climate-change-environmental-stewardship-drought-town-hall>.

Grandia: Liza reported that she met with Dr. Catherine Brinkley, the Faculty Director of the Center for Regional Change at UC Davis (regionalchange.ucdavis.edu), to discuss opportunities for collaboration. She noted that the center has excellent resources in research and community engagement and could be an excellent partner. Additionally, she shared (via chat) a resource link to the Agenda and Minutes Archive Page for the City of Berkeley Community Environmental Advisory Commission at www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/Commissions/Archive_Pages/Environmental_Advisory/Commissions_Community_Environmental_Advisory_Commission_Archive_Page.aspx.

Frankenbach: Rolf shared information about a large oak tree on Casa Linda Drive that had been removed recently by a homeowner. He noted that an arborist had done a comprehensive report and determined that the tree was hazardous. He stated that the Woodland Tree Foundation had spoken with the City about harvesting some of the wood to use in public places and understood that they had reached an agreement. However, the tree was removed without notice to the foundation and the foundation felt that the agreement was not held up. Rolf shared his feeling that re-creating a separate tree commission would provide public engagement, transparency, and communication that could avoid similar situations.

Aulman: Mark reported that he will be joining Adelita on the Yolo County Climate Action Commission. He was appointed by Supervisor Gary Sandy to represent District 3, while Adelita was appointed by Supervisor Angel Barajas to represent District 5. He noted that he approves of the Climate-Safe California campaign. Mark also spoke about his feeling that there is a need for a separate tree commission to ensure better public awareness and engagement, such as regarding the Casa Linda oak. He would like to add a discussion item to the next meeting regarding this.

Schremmer: Sara expressed her thanks for everyone's patience while she was away and that she is looking forward to renewed participation in the committee's activities. She seconded Liza's comments regarding the Center for Regional Change. Sara noted that she has worked with the center's Executive Director, Bernadette Austin, and agrees that they could be a great partner.

There were no other member reports.

9. Coastal Cleanup Day Update (Information Item)

Per Allison Martin's request, this item was moved up on the agenda. Coastal Cleanup Day is Saturday, September 18 and the Woodland event will be from 9:00 AM to Noon at the corner of Cannery Road and Deaner Avenue.

Allison praised Rosie's efforts assisting with logistics for the event. She noted that the original concept of supporting several sites has been changed to a single site in order to simplify the logistics for this year's pilot effort. The site selected is a storm water drainage ditch along Deaner Avenue adjacent to the 113 highway. Allison noted that a key element of the effort is collecting data about the types of debris removed. She noted that there were currently 25 pre-registered volunteers.

5. Work Group Updates (Information Item)

Public Input and Engagement: Allison reported that the work group met this week and is working on several ideas:

- They are looking into green-business recognition program models and how to leverage existing things like the Daily Democrat's annual recognition,
- Liza is developing a database of potential organizational partners for City sustainability efforts,
- Liza and Catalina are developing a proposal for an "EnviroWoodland" Facebook group – they will have more to follow on this,
- The group is continuing discussion about hosting a town hall style community event and is looking at late January as a potential target date.

Tree Canopy: Rolf reported that he has been getting lots of help from Danny Hewitt in IT with GIS identification of heat island locations and tree canopy coverage by subdivision to map potential tree planting locations and that he is developing a spreadsheet with this information. They are targeting areas with low canopy coverage to sequester carbon and reduce HVAC costs and fossil fuel usage.

Mark noted that the California Releaf grant application was approved for \$25,000 as a pilot project to plant trees in specific locations, which will be identified through this effort. Adelita asked how heat island locations are being identified. Mark replied that heat island map data from the Urban Land Institute is overlaid on the City map. He said that two spots stood out for use in the pilot and several others were identified as candidates for later efforts.

Policy: Robert and Catalina showed the committee how they used the analysis template to evaluate an existing or draft policy, using the current Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy as an example (they noted that it is dated and does not address climate change). Mark asked about next steps and they responded that they need to make some changes to the template based on the trial-run with the EPPP policy, add an executive summary, and bring it back to the committee for approval.

Programs: Raul reported that the group is continuing to work with Fleet Manager Troy Thompson regarding plans for replacing City fleet vehicles with hybrids or electric vehicles (EV's).

6. Staff reports (Information Item)

Ken reported that construction was complete on the Community Demonstration Rain garden project at Crawford Park and that a "Rain Gardens 101" webinar was held on August 31, with an overview of the project, explanation of the ideas behind the project, and information about how individuals can apply these ideas to their own yards. He also shared that staff was looking into some possible grant opportunities that staff might like committee input on, asked for any members interested to let him know.

7. Approve Minutes for July 21, 2021 (Action Item)

On a motion by Robert Ullrey, seconded by Catalina Munoz, and carried on a 7-0 vote, with one abstentions and one absence, committee members approved the minutes for the July 21, 2021 meeting, as corrected.

Ayes: Aulman, Frankenbach, Grandia, Munoz, Serena, Tadler, and Ullrey

Noes: None

Abstentions: Schremmer

Absent: Martin

8. Chair and Vice-Chair Selection (Action Item)

Outgoing Chair Mark Aulman nominated Vice-Chair Catalina Munoz to be the new Chair. Catalina accepted and nominated Robert Ullrey to be Vice-Chair.

On a motion by Mark Aulman, seconded simultaneously by Rolf Frankenbach, Liza Grandia, Sara Schremmer, and carried on an 8-0 vote, with one absence, committee members elected Catalina Munoz to be Chair and Robert Ullrey to be Vice-Chair.

Ayes: Aulman, Frankenbach, Grandia, Munoz, Schremmer, Serena, Tadler, and Ullrey

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Martin

10. Presentation of Draft Committee Annual (Year Two) Report (Information Item)

Outgoing Chair Mark Aulman introduced the draft Annual Report he prepared for the committee's review and submission to the City Council. He asked members to review the draft and provide written feedback prior to the October meeting, at which time the report will be before the committee for approval.

11. Discuss Long-range Calendar (Information/Action Item)

Ken noted that a presentation on the Woodland Regional Park has been rescheduled for the October meeting and an update from Valley Clean Energy is tentatively scheduled for the November meeting.

Members also discussed the idea of some kind of tracking of various work group projects. The suggestion was made that each work group would prepare a report of its activities. Question was raised about indexing this information and presentations made to the committee. This should be set for further discussion. Members also discussed how to track progress or responses with invited partners or presenters like Waste Management, so we have a historical record that future members of this committee can easily access.

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.