

Sustainability Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2023

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:06 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

- Present: Serena, Muñoz, Green, Grandia, Bellows, Peterson, Ullrey (7)
- Absent: Whitaker, Aulman, Frankenbach (3)
- Staff: Spencer Bowen

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

D. MEMBER REPORTS

Liza: By day, a professor at UC Davis founder of Woodland Coalition for Green Schools. Passionate about environment health and helping people avoid toxins in their everyday. Cancer and covid survivor.

Jennifer: Has lived in Woodland for the last 16 years, works for Bayer Crop Sciences. She focuses on conservation and plant genetic resources related to the plants and public policy. Recently, has had focus on quality and compliance.

Catalina: Long-term resident of Woodland. Has been serving for the last 4 years and works for a state agency in Sacramento.

Adelita: Has been living in Woodland for over 20 years. Passionate about climate and serves as commissioner on Yolo County Climate Action Commission, staffer for the Sierra Club, and teacher of local Aztec dance group.

Richard: Has PHD in chemical engineering from Berkeley. Has done previous research on CO2 admissions in the 1970s and has taken classes on fermentation and agricultural processes. Has been here 18 years and recipient of Woodland Community Service Award in 2016. Spent several years doing Meals on Wheels work. Worked in corporate research for Exxon.

Richard P.: Lived in Woodland for 3 years from Denver. Taught at private liberal arts college in Iowa as a sociology professor. Was on planning commission there for 25 years and also in planning commission in Colorado.

Robert: Beginning second term on Committee. Been in Woodland off and on his whole life. His family has a long history of being in Northern California. Works for state doing policy work and active in sustainability actions as well as DEI measures. Heavy Admission Truck Status: doing well on buses and getting ready to get school buses out. Climate Change Regional Workshop: First one as state is working towards educational program.

Adelita: Launching public input survey on Friday (shared to Spencer). It will be open until end of September. Want to hear from everyone in the county regarding climate impacts and the community perspective. The survey was drafted by staff and input of commissioners, driven and guided by feedback and Dudek Consultants. Directed towards EVERYONE in the county. Questionnaire style about how individuals are being impacted (financially, emotionally, etc.) The county wants to better design a

County-wide CAP. Questions regarding households, children, food security, etc. General survey and opportunities for more detail.

E. STAFF REPORTS

Spencer: Oversees environmental measures with the City. Regarding meetings, these tend not to go past 7:30, but sometimes they go shorter. Management: missing three members this evening. This committee is now a ten-member committee and the quorum is now 6. Email rules: cannot be coordinating on policies and decisions without minimum of quorum, best practice to send information to Spencer and Spencer can send it out to the entire committee. This is best for public records. Subcommittees allowed to coordinate, below 4 people. Council finally sent letter of support for SB 511. This would allow cities to request California Air Resources Board to perform greenhouse gas emission portfolios for local governments upon request. This would not happen immediately, but would be a huge resource for us. Finally, going over the remaining meeting calendar. Spencer will not be able to make the August 16 date. The third Wednesday of the month is the adopted schedule. It is mentioned in the agenda, but just wanted members to be aware of the schedule. Separately, scopes can be sent out of the subcommittees. The outreach committee currently has 3 people. If there are more than 4, then it is considered a Brown Act Meeting (not entirely sure). Potentially, a link could be sent out with information on being a Brown Act Committee. The minutes are sent to city council so they can read them up.

F. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. SUBJECT: Sustainability Advisory Committee minutes
RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION: Staff recommends that the Sustainability Advisory Committee Approve its meeting minutes from June 21, 2023 with corrections.
Moved by Ullrey, Muñoz seconds (with minor corrections)
6-0-1 vote, Bellows abstains
2. SUBJECT: Woodland's Climate Action Plan (CAP) – Continued Discussion
RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION: Staff recommends that the Sustainability Advisory Committee Approve its meeting minutes from June 21, 2023 with corrections.

In May, students did a presentation to City Council. They have been looking at it to observe if there are new issues or flags. Previous meetings had discussed biking.

Two things stood out

- a) Continued or more outreach
- b) New CAP assessment/inventory
 - a. Many of the things in the plan were done in 2016 or earlier. Political landscape has changed since then. Many of the things in the plan have changed as well. Also has to recognize county activities.

Open discussion topics:

The Communications component is also important. When attempting to influence behavior change, such as biking and so forth, communication is critical for that to happen, specifically messaging. Very clear messaging around changes the City makes that residents can potentially adopt.

Part of the charter of the committee is to be ambassadors and bring opinions like stakeholder input. Therefore, when it is sent to City Council, they are aware there has been community discussion. Whether or not new task forces or outreach are necessary,

A dedicated landing page would also be impactful. As well as other nonprofits and organizations in the areas' actions. It can serve as a connector for other communities in the area as well as providing information. Ken mentioned that it could be done in terms of "Food First." The Committee cannot endorse organizations, but provide resources. As well as, other organizations providing that information.

There can be criteria for how organizations can join on. A landing page and dashboard has been previously discussed. This can help residents see the status/updates of certain community projects.

On the Goldman Report, One of the first recommendations was accountability. There was a consistent amount of emission reduction in 2005 and 2016 with transportation. Who would know the source of that data and how would they determine it? There is also discussion about tracking energy usage in the industrial sector. The data seems hard to attain. There is a state law that can't track individual businesses. It seems hard to be accountable. Is there a possibility of aggregating several businesses in the sector and getting a report that way?

The transportation data reports are 11 years apart and done by different consultants therefore they might have used different methodology. It's hard to identify Woodland's individual transportation data.

The CAP data does not account for commuters in or ag traffic going through, it is very vague if it is capturing data from I-5. This has always been a problem and one of the reasons it has been hard to make a dashboard. If we are paying a consultant though, they will be able to figure it out.

Spencer: The idea with SB 511 would be to have the same consultant gather the data and make it more comparable.

For the commercial side of things, is that part of the community outreach scope? Could we try partnering with organizations to see if they can generate the data? It is on a lot of organizations' radars to be sustainable so they may be interested. The "big guys" are more active in looking for the data since they have more pressure. However, smaller restaurants and businesses also need to be considered. There is a two-fold on that. As a committee, we have been bringing in the voices of smaller companies.

UC Davis does an exhaustive transportation survey and we could utilize the data of people going from Woodland to Davis. There are creative ways of piecing together the available data.

Spencer: The American Community Survey also does them through the Census. SACOG does one as well.

Discussion that data is very dated. I do not get a sense of urgency out of this. I think it's an urgent issue, but it does not come across as an urgent issue. Some of their findings versus what the CAP says versus other sources seems to not be taken seriously. I was not aware of the urgency of climate change until I moved to California.

Emergency events: That is exactly why 1) how are we communicating response and 2) is that our role? I think adaptation requires alternative plans and more in-depth studies. We need to have more channels to communicate for responses. Robert clarified a few things and maybe that comes from the state. But does that mean we can't develop a way here a strategy to communicate a response as well at a different level than the state?

Spencer: Public agencies are very prepared. It is done by county and we practice different disasters all the time.

If we are looking at our CAP plan, it would be helpful to get an update on the areas we do not know as much about. Like I said last month, what I would like us to do because of the lack of urgency, I think it does open the opportunity for us to have a conversation here and with the city council. My recommendation is to re-assess what we have and make steps on what we want to do next. Such as a new CAP assessment or doing more outreach and communication or funding for a PT on the city side. It does show us some of the shadow areas that we don't know about as much anymore. Planning is trying to hold development to the old CAP plan, so I think it is time for us to update it since the landscape of it has changed a lot. I think this is one of our top priorities.

After that CAP plan was done, they set up the early version of the SAC. Ultimately, they decided to make it a standing committee. It is part of work to do is to help set the priorities. We are the ones that help prioritize some of these things and then we get feedback on the city to see where they are at.

Part of those priorities need to emerge from the citizens. We got a strong sense of that from last summer, but this report is bland. The last report was strong with lots of ideas.

CAP outlines categories and goals and in theory is shaping policy. Housing developments have to adhere to this or else they are more liable.

SB 1383 not in the CAP at all

Looking at the next meeting it looks like we've been discussing the Goldman Report for the last couple meetings. Should we put something on the agenda in regards to a recommendation?

Yes, I was going to recommend today based on us having a few directions we want to go in from the report. Outreach communications, GHG portfolio/CAP re-d0. Especially with outreach and communication, where we let the task force come up with a recommendation for the committee based on what we know. I don't know if we need to have a task force for GHG, but if people want to work towards a better recommendation for the committee to vote next month. We can meet as a small group and see what we want to do and how quickly we want it.

The City Council did adopt the Climate Safe California Rapid Decarbonization Platform. They did not want to do it at first and it really does not mean they have to do anything; it just means they align with the platform. I think maybe we could send that out to the new members. It says they will consider a phasing out of fossil fuels. They should read it because we supported it and got the city to vote and adopt that. We can refer back to it to remind them to align and go in the direction of the platform.

Once a year, Council revisits the priority goals and re-arrange. Sustainability is included on this. They did consider what the SAC had to say about it upon the receipt of the Berkeley report. It is top of mind. I can send them out as well

We can come back in August and come up with a report so that in September, we can move something to city council. If we wait until next month, we will be waiting until October or November to get something to City Council. Does outreach think they can do something as jumping off to see what to see to do for growth or special AD-HOC?

Some of the history of what we have done and our direction, we have organized a community info session. We are able to assess and gather data. Basically, that data can guide what we took to the City Council. So, we have been hearing from folks that attended that and we think it would make sense to do a

follow-up while also encouraging new residents to join. We want to generate a larger list-serve to do outreach to assess and provide feedback. We want to assess how people are acclimating to climate changes and their experiences. There are several things that will lead up to that. We really need to start becoming more visible so we can affect change and be inclusive with whatever is happening.

Perhaps Coastal Cleanup?

Next steps:

- The outreach committee will tackle “engagement” and come back in August with some recommendations.
- Ullrey willing to do something as a recommendation for looking at CAP and GHG portfolio and people can let me know if they want to work on that as well.
- In August, we can work on putting on together our recommendation for City Council.

G. WORK GROUP UPDATES

No work group updates.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.