

2023-06-13 BCOS Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 1. Matt Austin - present in person
 2. Kate-Lyn Edwards - present in person
 3. Matt Flaherty - absent
 4. David Maenner - present in person
 5. Nejla Routsong - present online
 6. Nolan Hendon - present in person
 7. Emma Ferguson - present in person
 8. John Eldon - absent
 9. Jessica Davis - absent
 10. Hannah Gregory - present online
 11. Justin Vasel - present in person
 12. Alex Hakes - absent
3. Approval of Agenda
 1. Approved, no objections
4. Approval of Minutes
 1. Approved, no objections
5. Public Comment (15-20 minutes, up to 3 minutes per person)
 1. Joseph Wynia -- new composting program called "Back to Earth", six possible site locations, pilot program. Recently met with Derek Carpenter Rumpke recycling, they opened a new recycling facility, offering a wider range of recyclable materials compared to Republic
6. Report from Acting Chair -
 1. Working groups 2023 year end goals
 - i. Waste management working group put together goals
 - ii. Just Transition working group putting together goals
7. Report from Staff Liaison
 1. Update on vacancies
 - i. Mayoral appointment - Dennis Vera
 - ii. 1 vacancy - common council appointment
 1. Shawn's old position still vacant, encouraging applicants
 1. BCOS Neighborhood Grant Program - in progress

2. BCOS Grant Program – in progress
8. Report from Council Ex-Officio
 1. The council is considering increases to the city's sanitation rates.
 - i. Reflect increased costs in providing services and consideration of whether to reduce or phase out additional subsidy from the General Fund that helps cover sanitation services for those who receive service
 - ii. Another option to consider longer term would be expanding CoB sanitation services to serve all residential properties.
 2. The council's Special Committee on Council Processes has begun looking at board and commission reforms, including the 10 recommendations from the [recent organizational study](#).
 - i. One recommendation is to combine BCOS and the Environmental Commission given partially overlapping purviews.
 1. Intend to invite input from all commissioners on the topic of reform, generally, and from BCOS and EC members, specifically, with regard to the BCOS-EC recommendation.
 3. The city council is going to be on recess for about a month and once they scope new meeting times for the current committee membership, they'll probably pick up where they left off in July
9. Reports from Commissioners
 1. Just Transition Working Group
 - i. Working on Fossil Fuel Proliferation Treaty
 1. Opened up some other opportunities and shined light on possible blind spots
 2. Spoke with Indiana Geological and Water Survey, director Todd Thompson may come speak to commission to talk about Indiana's geological features
 3. Nathan Ferreira from BHA + Summit Hill Community Land Trust also willing to come talk to commission as well
 - ii. Some confusion in the commission about the treaty and it's alignment with the City's Climate Action Plan
 1. Purpose is not to ask the city to endorse an international treaty, but instead to sign a resolution to encourage/pressure our state and national

government to support a treaty to be made to in order to reach responsible climate goals

2. Spur our commission to research local impacts of this resolution, especially from a supply-side perspective
3. Hope to engage stakeholders such as Duke Energy to talk about the prospect of renewable energy, etc.
4. If Bloomington residents are impacted by a potential resolution, commission will work to to identify pathways to green jobs for those currently employed in fossil fuel industry

2. Waste Management

- i. Landfill that Rupke uses is 35 miles away, landfill that Republic uses is 60+ miles away
 1. Would be a win to switch to them for the mere reduction in emissions from transportation vehicles
- ii. Rumpke collects methane from their landfill
 1. Republic does not
- iii. City currently subsidizes cost of recycling and trash, now a perfect time to switch providers
- iv. Putting together an action letter to propose to City in hopes of encouraging them to switch to Rumpke, will share letter at next BCOS meeting for review
 1. Who do we need to give the letter to? Checking if its Public Works
- v. Year-end goals:
 1. Put together a Call to Action to present to the city council to present the Republic a 60 day notice of accepting bids
 2. Finalize Compost Captains Project Program and begin a trial run in one neighborhood
 3. Research successful glass recycling by commercial businesses programs in other cities
- vi. Research commercial glass recycling procedures/facilities in other municipalities to see if any are successful

3. Strategic Engagement and Outreach working group proposed by Justin

- i. Building collaborative relationships with like minded groups (ngo, private, city, etc.) and public outreach

- ii. Generating awareness of sustainability issues, educating the public about what we do on the commission, soliciting community input
 - iii. Resource sharing, avoiding duplicating efforts already put forth by other groups
 - iv. Develop an engagement strategy to implement working group
 - 1. Uploaded to our Google Drive
 - v. Need to document relationships and collaborations to ensure institutional knowledge is built and retained
 - vi. Three action items:
 - 1. Finish engagement strategy to present at next meeting
 - 2. Establish top 5-7 organization to establish communication and begin building relationships with
 - 3. Complete on one collaborative project with groups
10. Discussions Not Resolutions
 1. Call to Action Letter: City switch to Rumpke
 11. Resolutions for First Reading
 12. Resolutions for Second Reading
 13. New Business
 14. Adjournment

Next Meeting: July 11, 2023 at 6 pm