

2023-08-08 BCOS Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 1. Matt Austin - present, in person
 2. Kate-Lyn Edwards - present, online
 3. Matt Flaherty - present, in person
 4. David Maenner - present, in person
 5. Nejla Routsong - present, in person
 6. Nolan Hendon - present, in person
 7. Emma Ferguson - present, in person
 8. Jon Eldon - absent
 9. Jessica Davis -absent
 10. Hannah Gregory - present, in person
 11. Justin Vasel - present, in person
 12. Alex Hakes - absent
 13. Heidi Dowding - present, online
 14. Dennis Vera - present, online
3. Approval of Agenda
 1. Addition of Nathan Ferreira from BHA to present
 2. Addition approved, no objections
4. Approval of Minutes
 1. Don from Env. Commission -- chair for air quality working group will be addressing council, reactivating water quality group that will mostly focus on surface water due to recent reports of increased water quality complaints/issues
 2. Brooklynn Hall -- specializes in media/advertising, could potentially help with social media for BCOS to improve outreach
5. Public Comment (15-20 minutes, up to 3 minutes per person)
6. Report from Acting Chair
 1. No report
7. Report from Staff Liaison
 1. BCOS Neighborhood Grant Program Details
 - i. \$10,000 for small neighborhood grants, grants up to \$1,000/pc
 - ii. Neighborhoods can submit an initial application, what CAP goal it aligns with, will go to city staff to approve eligibility,

Emma will receive and review grants, BCOS will decide together

1. BCOS will make funding recommendations, city staff will review and send out final funding decisions to applicants
 2. Will potentially be posted next week
 3. Grants will be reimbursements, with the exception of up-front funding for low income neighborhoods
2. BCOS Working Group Grant Program Details
 - i. Funding for BCOS members
 - ii. Similar projects and application to the neighborhood grants
 - iii. Shawn making these funding decisions, with BCOS voting as a group
 - iv. Funding pot of \$10,000
 3. Climate Ready Communities Survey: <https://polco.us/se58d9>
 - i. Up until October, ~55 people have taken it so far
 - ii. Encourage everyone to share for more numbers
 4. [CAATS](#) Earthkeepers presentation to city council on 8/2
 - i. Earth Keepers gave final presentation on their work, available through link above
 5. Greenhouse Gas Inventory presentation with Gnarly Tree Sustainability Institute 8/9 at 6:30pm
8. Report from Council Ex-Officio
 1. Sanitation fees ordinance before the council
 - i. Concerns about equity and how sanitation services are funded
 - ii. Looking at options to tackle it, not any political support right now
 - iii. One time fee increase as an alternative ordinance that council is considering
 2. Cascades park multiuse path corridor
 - i. Challenge is that the space is tight, concerns about amounts of tree removal and bank stabilization
 - ii. Exploring policy options: Build a multi-use path, shut vehicle traffic down to one lane, close section of road to vehicle traffic entirely to convert into multiuse path
 - iii. Many mixed opinions, looking for a resolution that balances cost and environmental issues

- iv. Transit ordinance that would expand transit boundaries
 - 1. Federal policy changes may leave limitations that cause service gaps
 - v. Working on a resolution to give policy recommendations r.e. traffic signals, especially in high pedestrian areas
 - 1. Leading pedestrian interval has huge safety benefits
- 9. Reports from Commissioners
 - 1. Just Transition Working Group
 - i. Meeting with Duke Energy
 - 1. Goal to achieve net zero methane emissions by 2023 and carbon dioxide emissions by 2050
 - 2. Duke has a presentation that they can do for BCOS about their mission and interest in renewable energy
 - 3. Duke has programs for low income customers and to make homes more weather efficient
 - 4. Will continue to work with BCOS to align goals
 - ii. Meeting with S.A.F.E Cities based out of Oregon
 - 1. Help cities stay safe from harms of climate change
 - 2. Will be connecting BCOS to network of other cities that share same goals/interests
 - 2. Community Outreach
 - i. Some work done on spreadsheet for community outreach
 - 3. Waste Management
 - i. Community members concerned about where their food waste can go now that Earth Keepers is done
 - 1. Community Orchard has been asked
 - ii. Federal grant out for support of commercial composting biodigester, requires matching
 - 1. City and county could partners on this
 - iii. No report on Compost Captains
- 10. Nathan Ferrara from BHA's SHCDC report
 - 1. Arlington Park with builders H4H and Clear Creek
 - 2. Growing affordability gap, on average in Bloomington housing prices went up 5% per year, driving up market prices while average incomes more or less stay the same
 - 3. Homeowners buys structure, not land, which is key component to driving down price
 - i. Land Trust retains ownership of property (land)

- ii. Housing prices will remain affordable by using a formula that ensures that fact, despite turnover, most external market pressure, etc.
 - 4. This shared-equity model provides many benefits to the community
 - 5. Neighborhood is 100% non-gas, all electric
- 11. Discussions Not Resolutions
 - 1. CAPS Commission Alternative Public Safety Report
 - i. Kamala Brown-Sparks in attendance, co-writer of CAPS report
 - ii. CAPS report recommends that Bloomington take an alternative approach to public safety by creating a new Department of Community Safety and Resilience
 - iii. Process is evidence-based, consent-driven, and community-led
 - 1. Uses principle of harm-reduction
 - iv. Report found 3 problem areas:
 - 1. Barriers to access of housing, addiction treatment, and mental healthcare, and emergency services
 - 2. Conflicting goals and priorities within city departments
 - 3. Institutional gap in coordinating responses
 - 2. Endorsement of Letter to the Mayor in Community Handout
 - 3. This initiative connects to multiple SDG's (poverty reduction, socio-environmental well-being, etc.)
- 11. Resolutions for First Reading
- 12. Resolutions for Second Reading
- 13. New Business
 - a. Environmental Community Networking Mixer
- 14. Adjournment

Next Meeting: September 12, 2023 at 6 pm