



ALACHUA COUNTY Citizen Climate Advisory Committee

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Officers: Chair John Nix
Vice-chair Jennison Kipp Searcy
Secretary James Fulton
Co-Secretary Carly Muir
Staff Liaisons: Stephen Hofstetter (County)
Dan Zhu (City of Gainesville)
Eric Walters (GRU)

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2023

Grace Knight Conference Room
12 SE 1st Street, Second Floor
Gainesville, Florida 32601

1. Call to Order – Attendance and Determination of Quorum – the meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by John Nix. There was not an in-person quorum for the meeting.
Members: In person – John Nix, Danielle Cucchiara, and Jackie Davis (on zoom: Adam Despang) (Absent: Nathan Fox, James Fulton, Terry Harpold, Jennison Kipp Searcy, and Carly Muir)
Staff: Stephen Hofstetter (ACEPD), Eric Walters (GRU), Dan Zhu (City of Gainesville), Jennie Ford (City of Gainesville), Betsy Riley (AC SEEDS), and Mike Castine (ACGM)
Guests: Matt Williams, Ellen Siegel, and Jyoti Parmar
2. Approval of Agenda – no changes proposed by committee.
3. Approval of Minutes: Lack of Quorum. But no changes proposed to the minutes.
4. Continued discussion of CCAC member tasks and responsibilities. Dani will update the spreadsheet and provide a link to Steve to send to the CCAC members.
5. Betsy gave an update on the current status of the planning for the June 2 Climate event. We have approximately 30 vendors and are still trying to secure food vendors. We will likely begin to open up registration this week for the 3-5pm workshop. Jennie Ford mentioned that the city will be providing 7 additional 10x10' tents. John Nix is going to reach out to the school board and Grow Hub to see if they will be vendors.
6. Staff Updates:
 - a. Stephen Hofstetter – Alachua County staff liaison reminded the committee of the Chair will give an update to the BOCC at the June 27, 2023, regular meeting. Jones Edmunds will be giving a presentation on the climate vulnerability analysis at the County BOCC May 23rd regular meeting. Steve will provide a link of that presentation to the CCAC when it is available. He also reminded the committee that John Nix, Terry Harpold, and

Nathan Fox tenures end August 30th, and a press release will be going out in the next week reminding citizens of the openings. There is also an existing vacancy on the CCAC that will also be selected at the JWCPB August 7th meeting.

- b. Dan Zhu, Chief Climate Officer, discussed the options of using Envisio or ESRI as a website platform for carbon tracking. She discussed the current status of the ICLEI contract. She will bring the information back at the next meeting. She also discussed a 179K Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant application and provided additional information about the EV charging stations plan for fleet.
 - c. Eric Walters - GRU staff liaison provided an update on the steering committees and stakeholder advisory committee for the GRU Integrated Resource Plan (IRC) and that the next meeting is June 6th. He also provided an update that the Origis (Sandy Bluff Solar) contract was signed with a plan to have it built and running by Dec. 2024. He also provided an update on a current grant application for EV hookups in the city and stated that the GRU Bill has not yet been signed by the Governor and they are working on the 'gray areas' should it be signed.
7. Next Regular meeting is on June 26, 2023. Possible items may include:
- a. Follow up on the June 2 climate fair and discuss next steps for Climate Action Plan
 - b. Discussion of platform options presented by Dan Zhu
 - c. Continue to track progress with climate partners.
8. Meeting Recap & Action Items:
- a. Steve will provide a video link of the May 23 BOCC meeting presentation by Jones Edmunds.
 - b. Dani will update the spreadsheet to track and keep updated our efforts with Climate partners.
 - c. Steve will be sending out a press release requesting citizens to fill vacancies on the CCAC and will provide a copy of the press release to the CCAC members.
 - d. Steve will send out an email to verify availability of members for the June 26, 2023, meeting.
9. Public Comment – Read comments from Sue Blythe requesting support for an application by the Climate Collaboratory to the Florida Humanities Council for a \$50k Broadcasting Hope Media Grant.
10. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM