



Citizen Climate Advisory Committee

Officers: Chair Jennison Kipp Searcy

Vice Chair Barry Jacobson

Secretary Sage Cera

Staff Liaisons: Stephen Hofstetter (County)

Dan Zhu/Jennie Ford (City of Gainesville)

MEETING MINUTES

February 17, 2025 – 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Grace Knight Conference Room

12 SE 1st Street, 2nd Floor,

Gainesville, Florida 32601

1. Call to Order – Attendance and Determination of Quorum – 6:01pm
Members: In person – Jennison Kipp Searcy, John Nix, John Lawson; Terry Clark, Sage Cera, Kathryn Taubert, Barry Jacobson (Jackie Davis and Pamela Hawkins absent)
Staff: Stephen Hofstetter (EPD), Jessica Kluttz (GM), Dan Zhu (City), Mike Castine (GM), Gail Mowry (City), Jennie Ford (City), Betsy Riley (EPD)
Guests: Ellen Siegel, Jyoti Parmar (all on zoom)
2. Approval of updated Agenda. Motion by John Nix, seconded by Barry Jacobson, motion passed 7-0.
3. Approval of Dec 16, 2024 and January 21 2025 regular meeting minutes. Motion by Terry Clark, Seconded by John Lawson, motion passed 7-0.
4. Selection of new CCAC Chair. Jennison is now a county employee and as to vacate the committee. Kathryn Taubert nominated Barry J. for Chair and seconded by Terry C. Motion approved 7-0. Terry C. nominated John Nix for Vice Chair, Kathryn T. seconded, motion approved 7-0.
5. Staff updates –
Stephen Hofstetter (County): Jennison is the new Resiliency Specialist with Alachua County Environmental Protection Department and will be the liaison for this committee.
Discussed the addition of a voting youth member, age 16-21, to the committee. Based on the discussion, John N. made a motion to adopt a structure including a voting youth member with an alternative citizen member so that the total voting board stays at 9 members. 8 citizen members, 1 youth member, and an alternate citizen member. John L. seconded the motion. Barry clarified that at least one of the nine voting members must be between 16-21. Motion carried 7-0.

Dan Zhu (City): Climate Resiliency Plan for City of Gainesville was adopted last month. The city is developing a zero-waste internal campaign. Staff visited the biomass plant and Kanapaha wastewater plant. Next month they are shifting to waste outreach. She is currently managing \$40 million in grants for 11 projects. Three grants are on hold with the Federal government.

GRU - Steve read information provided by Jamie Verschage (GRU) that included online in-home rebates, cancelation of Sandy Bluff solar project due to escalating costs, and other GRU updates.
6. Review of the Energy Chapter of Climate Action Plan (CAP). Summary by Betsy Riley. Comments were received from members including updated diagrams, data on county buildings, demand

management needs, use of thermal energy storage systems, inserting page numbers, and the need to tell stories.

7. Review of Land Use & Transportation Chapter of CAP – summary by Mike Castine and Jessica Kluttz. Many questions from members including updating the land-use-change chart, impacts of housing costs, use of comp plan policies in chapter (put in appendix or summary table), include ride share information to transit strategies, and tell stories.
8. Review of Flooding Chapter of CAP – postponed to next meeting based on time constraints.
9. Suggest items for March 17, 2025 regular meeting:
 - Review Flooding, Health/Heat, and Ag and Food Security CAP Chapters
 - Introduction section and Green Industries sections for future discussion
10. Member recap, action items and member comments – Recap given by Sage.
11. Public comments – none
12. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm