



**SACEE
DRAFT MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 15, 2016**

Board Members in Attendance: Sonia Marcus, John Noor, Josh O’Conner, Geoffry Habron, Duncan McPherson, Keith McDade, Lael Gray

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Josh O’Conner motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. John Noor seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. UPDATES/REPORTS

a. Waste Reduction: Mindy Fisher and Keith McDade

The Waste Reduction Subcommittee met after SACEE’s regular meeting date this month and therefore no updates were to be heard.

b. Energy: John Noor and Julie Mayfield

Councilwoman Julie Mayfield updated members about the Energy Innovation Task Force. The Task Force had its second meeting, where the group created working groups that will focus on specific topics. The working groups include: 1. Programs, 2. Technology, 3. Community Engagement, and 4. Peak Reduction. Councilwoman Mayfield also discussed the group’s exploration into funding options. Members discussed how SACEE can support the Task Force.

c. Food Policy Action Plan: Josh O’Conner

A representative from the Asheville-Buncombe Food Policy Council discussed the recommendation letter from SACEE in support of the City’s strategic partnership. Projects that the Food Policy Council and the City work on together were also discussed. The City will provide funds within the Office of Sustainability’s budget to help support the Food Policy Council, which will also aid in funding a coordinator that will work with City staff. Projects within the Food Policy Council were explained to members and member discussed the City’s role in the work. Mr. Josh O’Conner noted that the Urban Agriculture Collaborative effort is continuing to move forward.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Strategic Partnership Funds: Letters of Support

SACEE prepared letters of support for strategic partnership applications. In addition to funds that will help support the Asheville-Buncombe Food Policy Council, Asheville GreenWorks was also approved to be funded under the Office of Sustainability’s budget. Members discussed the applications and process for strategic partnerships and what was decided by Council. Members also discussed Council’s decision to put funding within the Office of Sustainability’s budget.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Open Position, SACEE Road Show

Ms. Sonia Marcus discussed open positions on SACEE. Members also discussed diversity on Boards and Commissions and strategies to expand the committee's reach to recruit new and diverse members. Suggestions included adding more information to the website and presenting at other boards and commissions and community meetings.

b. Community Partner Conversation: RiverLink

A representative from RiverLink informed Members about the organization and how they partner with the City. RiverLink has contributed to projects that address stormwater best management practices and stream restoration. The organization has also been working with the City on invasive plant removal at 14 Riverside Drive, road and stream cleanups, a name the creek program, special events, and river access projects. Members discussed the projects and concerns over increased river usage.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

6. ADJOURN

Chair Sonia Marcus adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m. without objection.