



**SACEE
DRAFT MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
April 20, 2016**

Board Members in Attendance: Sonia Marcus, John Noor, Geoffrey Habron, Duncan McPherson, Mindy Fisher, Keith McDade, Josh O’Conner, Lawrence Pittman

Staff in Attendance: Amber Weaver, Kerby Smithson, Vaidila Satvika, Melissa VanSickle

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair John Noor motioned to approve the minutes. Mindy Fisher seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. UPDATES/REPORTS

a. Waste Reduction: Mindy Fisher

Ms. Minder Fisher provided an update regarding the Waste Reduction Subcommittee’s first meeting. The meeting included an overview of where the City is and what has been going on in terms of waste reduction. Ms. Fisher provided information regarding representatives present at the meeting. The discussion of the group focused on PAYT and curbside composting collection. The next meeting is on May 12th. Also, PAYT will be going to the Finance Committee next week. Overall, the working group is an opportunity to have a collective group to work on 50% waste reduction goal. Members discussed what other representatives could be a part of the discussion for the subcommittee.

b. Duke Energy Partnership: Sonia Marcus

The Energy Innovation Task Force resolution was approved by both the County and the City. At the County, there was discussion about the nature of the appointments. SACEE members discussed the importance of the committee reaching out in the beginning to mend concerns about exclusiveness. As an update, members noted that the City has been reviewing PACE and staff is preparing a report to take to the Finance Committee next week.

c. Food Policy Action Plan; Mary Ellen Lough and Buncombe Fruit and Nut Club

Representatives from the Food Policy Council provided an update about their organization, recent projects, and research that they are working on. Ms. Mary Ellen Lough discussed work being done on an urban agriculture policy and the challenges associated. The Food Policy Council is working with City staff to address some of the issues. Members discussed the issues associated with the urban agriculture policy and definitions surrounding urban farming.

Representatives from the Buncombe Fruit and Nut Club provided a background and description of their club. The mission of the club is to promote public edibles, take care and plant trees and scrubs

in public spaces. The representatives described issues that they have been experiencing regarding communication and coordination with the City's Park Maintenance. Members discussed the issues regarding maintenance and signage. SACEE suggested involving the club in Asheville Parks and Greenways Foundations. It was also suggested that the club have a representative at the Tree Commission, which has recently created an Edibles Subcommittee. The Sustainability Office is also working to create a website that will include a list of edibles.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dave Nutter noted that staff has organized tours on the Edible Mile on Monday at 12:30 and Tuesday 8:30 and 5:00, which will meet in French Broach River parking lot.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. SACEE Focus Areas 2016

Member previously discussed their goals but will move forward to consider their capacity to achieve them. Mr. John Noor led an exercise to consider the focus areas and assign members to tasks for the goals within them. The members revisited what goals they need to spend time on and then assigned people to actions under those goals. The areas considered included:

1. Participation & Engagement
2. Review and Improve
3. Comprehensive Planning

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Sustainable Development Ordinance: Vaidila Satvika

Mr. Vaidila Satvika provided a background of the City's Sustainability Ordinance, which was put in place in 2005. In February, staff presented UDO changes to Council, which addressed infill strategies. Overall, staff is beginning to look at how to use land more efficiently and will have a public forum that will look at these changes. Staff is also looking to revise the Sustainable Development Ordinance so that it would be better utilized. Members discussed the development ordinance and how SACEE can help inform staff and provide input. Mr. Satvika will inform members of the process for the ordinances so that members can stay involved.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rick Clemenzi from the Net Zero Foundation discussed options and information regarding PACE. Members discussed the topic and the state legislation. Mr. Clemenzi asked that SACEE help inform and discussed the ability to do a CPACE project.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. ADJOURN

Chair Sonia Marcus adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m. without objection.