

# **ASHLAND CONSERVATION AND CLIMATE OUTREACH COMMISSION**

## **Action Minutes- May 25, 2022**

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm by Rosenthal, Vice-Chair.

Present: Jamie Rosenthal (vice-chair), Jim McGinnis, Anya Moore, Larry Cooper, Bess Walker, Kate Kennedy, and Mary McClary (staff)

Absent: Marni Koopman, Tonya Graham

Vacant positions: 2

### **2. Consent Agenda**

Meeting Minutes of 04/27/22

Kennedy corrected the minutes:

Capitalize: Earth Day and Happy Dirt Farm

Change *and* to *at*, 6.2, second paragraph

Relace second sentence: 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph.

*From:* She also mentioned food scraps may be placed in the yard debris containers.

*To:* *She will verify information regarding pre-consumed uncooked vegetable food scraps and disposal.*

**Motion:** McGinnis/Walker made a motion to approve meeting minutes as amended for April 27, 2022.

**Vote:** Unanimously, motion passed

### **3. Announcements**

#### **3.1. Next Regular Meeting**

June 22, 2022, Siskiyou Room

#### **3.2. Other Announcements from Commissioners**

None stated.

### **4. Public Forum**

Flava Franco, spoke about the *Oregon Electrify Ashland Now* flyer that was mailed to Ashland residents. <https://electrifynow.net/flyer>. Their web site has information for changing from fossil gas to electricity and there is a petition you may sign that goes to the city council asking for action.

She announced the Ashland Chamber had posted on their web site the monthly meetings for Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN).

Flava will be teaching a sustainability class through Parks and Rec this June.

She asked the Commission to support these efforts and find ways to get the information out to the public.

She further announced a *Get the Dirt on Soil* webinar series taught by Post Carbon Institute out of Corvallis.

## **5. Reports/Presentations**

**Council Update:** Graham was not able to attend the meeting.

**SOU Update:** Walker announced SOU was awarded “Gold” rating in Sustainability. In 2019 they were awarded Silver. There are 900 higher education institutions in 40 countries that report on the Sustainability tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) in the U.S.

In addition, one of SOU’s goals is to generate 100% of electricity that is used within the University. They are applying for Federal, State, and grants to support this goal. McGinnis brought up the idea of creating a portfolio of local offsets keeping the money generated invested in local infrastructure.

## **6. Business**

### **6.1. Dry Creek Landfill Tour**

Kennedy reported on her recent tour of the Dry Creek Landfill and the Rogue Transfer Station in White City. She encouraged other Commission members, City Council members to tour as well. She reported Rogue was one of the privately held landfills in the state and receives waste from 11 counties, with a 100-year capacity. They have 417 natural gas wells on the pile that collect natural gas and converted to electricity that support 3,000 homes.

The Commission discussed food scraps not composted but put into trash.

They toured the organic certified composting facility.

She also informed the Commission about Senate bill 582, that passed into law, called the Recycling Modernization Act to be implemented July 2025. Kennedy will send staff a 2-page fact sheet to distribute to the members.

She would like to explore more about food recycling as a commission and get clarification about what can go into the green bins, specifically non-cooked pre-consumer vegetable food scraps.  
The Commission discussed several aspects of recycling and recycling materials.

### **6.2. CCOC sub-groups progress reports**

Cooper reported about a community water group trying to collaborate with the city for outreach materials the city already retains. Julie Smitherman supports the idea of volunteers doing water conservation outreach.

Moore spoke and explained about the Story Telling sub-group. The group brainstormed about how best to utilize the information they receive with outreach ideas.

### **6.3. Budget items to review**

Staff reported the ending balance would carry forward to the next fiscal year.

The members discussed reviving the Conservationist/Climate Warrior of the Year and possible expenditures.

They discussed a Monitor installed in a city building, facing outward, highlighting different aspects of the Commission, or tips for recycling, conservation, and sustainability.

*>McGinnis agreed to find the prior program's criteria for the Commission to discuss.*

### **6.4. Project Development**

Set aside.

### **6.5. Commission monthly column in Sneak Preview**

The members discussed favorable the next article for CCOC and CPC that included a bar code.

Article	Assigned To	Due for Packet	Due to Sneak Preview	Month Published
<b>CCOC &amp; CPC joint article</b>	McGinnis	May 11	June 5	July
<b>Systematic Approach to Climate Change</b>	Walker/McGinnis	June 8	July 5	August
<b>Almeda Fire and Impact</b>	Rosenthal	July 13	August 5	September

**Motion:** Kenney/McGinnis motioned and seconded to approve the CCOC and CPC to move to the Sneak Preview for publication.

**Vote:** Unanimously, motion passed

## 7. Wrap Up

### 7.1 Items to be added to future agendas

Conservation year end awards and criteria program revitalization.

## 8. Meeting adjourned at 4:02pm

## Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission

The purpose of Ashland's Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission is to support the achievement of Ashland's Community Climate Recovery Goals and conservation activities. The Commission shall actively encourage Community entities and individuals to make wise use of resources and make progress toward Ashland's Community Climate Goals as set forth in the most current City Council approved version of the Climate and Energy Action Plan.

The Conservation and Climate Outreach Commission consists of nine voting members including one representative each from the solid waste franchisee for the city, Southern Oregon University, and the Ashland School District, and six other voting members.

Powers and Duties Generally:

- A. Consistent with City policies and procedures, educate and advocate for Ashland's Community Climate Recovery Goals
- B. Consistent with the Climate and Energy Action Plan, make recommendations on strategies, actions, and programs related to the wise and efficient use of resources by all Ashland citizens, including:
  - a. Consumption of goods and services.
  - b. Materials management, waste prevention, reduction, and recycling.
  - c. Conservation and efficient use of electricity, water, and natural resources.
  - d. Promotion of community, residential, and commercial renewable resources.
  - e. Air quality awareness; and
  - f. Climate resilience and preparedness.