

Borough of Carlisle
Climate Action Committee
Executive Committee Minutes
April 5, 2022
6:00 PM

Committee members present at the meeting: Joel Hicks, Karla Farrell, Tony Underwood, Mitch Shiles, Dave Sheridan, Deputy Mayor Brenda Landis and Sustainable Community & Economic Planning Director Jared Woolston. Others in attendance: Public Information Coordinator Stephanie Taylor, and Borough Secretary Joyce Stone.

I. Joel Hicks called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

II. Meeting Minutes

A. The Executive Committee voted 4-0 to approve the November 30, 2021 minutes. (Hicks/Underwood)

III. Public Comment

Joel Hicks noted the Carlisle Borough Manager and Mayor formulated a steering group that will streamline the recommendations, the specific plans and subset of the plans that require borough commitments for the process that is in place. This will allow the mission and work of the committee to move forward in a logic fashion.

Joel Hicks recognized and thanked the Committee members that participated in the Climate Justice Teach-In at Dickinson College. He noted it is important to engage and inform the public on the work that is being done by the Committee.

IV. Introductory Remarks:

A. Joel Hicks remarked that the task force members will be developing a schedule and implementation of a plan for the execution of actionable recommendations. These will be a series of various elements that have to come together to realize the objective that are spread across the different task forces.

B. Update on six (6) deep dive projects

Mr. Hicks introduced the newest member of the executive committee, Dave Sheridan, who will be heading the Transportation Task Force. This task force will focus on two objectives. The first is to promote the adoption of electric vehicles by households and businesses to achieve 30% of the light duty fleet by 2035 and 90% by 2050. The second is to focus on reducing community vehicle miles traveled by 10% by 2035 and 25% by 2050. This involves thinking about activities like ride sharing as well as providing safe and convenient alternatives to internal combustion engine travel on our roadways.

Mr. Hicks noted the Pathways and Analytics Team will implement a plan to achieve those objectives. He commented on the bipartisan infrastructure bill which has set aside seven and a half billion dollars for EV Infrastructure and that our municipality should be highly competitive for those funds.

The Decarbonization Task Force will focus on the following objectives, warehouse solar installations, target of electrification and fuel switching to reduce the use of fossil fuels, and to transition to 100 percent renewable energy consumption at all borough facilities by 2050.

The Energy Efficiency and Behavior Task force led by Karla Farrell will focus on the project to retrofit forty percent of existing residential homes in an energy efficiency program by 2035 and 70 percent by 2050.

C. Overview of Community Engagement Team

Mitch Shiles provided the five main criteria that the Borough will use as a guide for the objectives in each project.

- The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Conservation and preservation of resources both in and out of Carlisle's boundaries.
- Diversity, inclusiveness, and equity
- Public health and safety
- Local economic development

V. **Team/TF Lead Updates:**

A. Community Engagement:

Mitch Shiles thanked Dickinson Center for Civic Learning in Action for the grant of \$8,900 that will be used for conducting additional public outreach with focus groups and helping residents insulate their homes using thermal cameras and weatherization materials that will be purchased for them.

B. Pathways & Analytics:

Tony Underwood noted his core group of team members will begin to contribute to the implementation plans for the six key actions and develop projections of reductions or estimates of impact along some of these criteria.

There was discussion on creating a dashboard on the website/social media to provide residents with a sense measurements of where we are with reaching the goals of the Climate Action Plan. The Pathways & Analytics team was tasked with devising measurement techniques to accumulate this data.

C. Energy Efficiency and Behavior Task Force:

Karla Farrell noted her team is looking for creative ways to upgrade houses and buildings with energy efficiency improvements for those that need it the most. She will speak with Cumberland County South Central Community Action Program to talk about how their program works.

Deputy Mayor Landis noted the American Rescue Plan dollars could be considered for possible zero interest loans for landlords as an incentive for improvements. Joel Hicks commented that tracking those types of programs would provide accurate data.

D. Transportation Task Force:

David Sheridan remarked that his task force consists of three members and they will soon meet to begin planning projects that will provide usable measurements for the other committees.

Discussion ensued regarding projects to consider for obtaining measurements, such as the metered parking lots in the borough and multi-family housing. Mr. Sheridan suggested looking into what the infrastructure bill has for electric vehicles.

E. Decarbonization Task Force: Vacant**VI. Other EC member Updates**

Deputy Mayor Landis suggested considering how residents navigate in our town and provide them with the knowledge and resources for upgrades to their bicycles. She noted there are warehouses in the Borough that are progressive in their practices that could be used as an example for other businesses.

A discussion was held about tracking vehicle miles traveled (vmt) by replicating a survey used by the local government operation Clearpath that could be used to track vmt with in the Borough.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08