

Arvada Sustainability Advisory Committee (ASAC) Agenda
January 10, 2024, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
City Hall: City Council Room (CCR), Third Floor or Remotely via Zoom

Assigned Minutes Recorder: *Harriet Hall*

Membership in Attendance:

Dar-Lon Chang	Term Exp 2026	Vinnie LaSalvia	Term Exp 2025
Keegan Conley	Term Exp 2024	Alex Pray	Term Exp 2024
Keith Emery	Term Exp 2024	Kia Ruiz	Term Exp 2024
Harriet Hall	Term Exp 2024	Randy Moorman (Council Liaison)	
Tara Kent	Term Exp 2025		
Absent:		Iris Horowitz	
Laurel Mattrey		Rachael Smallwood	
Guest:		Mark Chalinski (sp?)	

5:30 p.m. Call to Order – Dar-Lon called the meeting to order in Laurel’s absence
Land Acknowledgement -Kia did the land acknowledgement
Agenda Review Dar-lon reviewed the agenda and there were no changes
Approval of 11/08/2023 ASAC Meeting Minutes There were no changes, and everyone approved the minutes

5:45 p.m. Public Comment/Review Mark introduced himself. He is a mechanic and fire protection engineer, with sustainability a key part of his practice. He encourages Arvada to take steps to meet state building performance standards and energy code. He has applied to be a member of this committee.

5:50 p.m. Old Business/General Business:

Updates from Staff Liaison –

- Nalini reported we had 44 applicants for 4 open slots on the committee.
- Winterfest and Earth Day are the two scheduled city events that we might want to table at.
- The city has finalized a contract with Lotus Engineering for the Climate Action Plan and they will be meeting later this month.
- We will need to discuss officer positions at a future meeting

General Updates from Committee members - none

Updates from Council Liaison -

- Randy reported that the City Council’s Strategic Planning retreat is Feb 9. He suggested we give public comment at the next two Council meetings. Look at the Dec 18 council meeting minutes about the results of the community survey, and how sustainability and climate action are reflected, although this year’s survey did not really ask about it. We should do comments about why sustainability is a priority, including identifying the issues reflected in the previous year’s survey. Alex volunteered to review the previous year’s survey and send out a summary to members.
- Randy is now on the advisory committee for the Arvada Center and was interviewed for Board membership. The property where it is located is owned by the city who is also their largest

funder. They want to be greener, but have felt constricted by goals not in the context of current city activities. We should consider that in our strategic planning.

- New Council member Sharon Davis is interested in fires caused by e-bike batteries, which might be something we address, maybe through an education campaign with the Fire Department. Kia suggested the city also approach Republic since they are experiencing fires due to this. Randy will reach out to the fire department.
- The ban on plastic bags suggests the need for an education campaign. Ecocycle has resources for restaurants about this on their website.
- Randy asked how we want to be involved regarding building codes, and Nalini will reach out to the building code staff and request a presentation.

6:00 p.m. Partners in Energy, Xcel Energy – Presentation

See ppt presentation.

Discussion:

- How can we support the electrification planning?
- Clarification – Home energy squad basic level services are free. Home energy plus is now \$100 as long as there is a discounted promotion. HOA's and neighborhoods should do as whole community to bring costs down.
- Alex said he could provide a testimonial regarding his 1960's home energy audit.
- There is a city video on home energy squad visits.
- Focus has been residential, but expanding now to businesses.
- Randy suggested we support a Chamber of Commerce Community Impact Forum on sustainability.
- Dar-Lon asked about working with the County and with Jeffco schools which they have not done, other than working with the County on the unincorporated areas.
- Sponsoring neighborhood activities such as block parties was suggested

6:45 p.m. A Look Ahead: 2024

Brainstorm:

We definitely need to focus on the Climate Action Plan. The contract runs through Nov, with Nalini's intro meeting with the consultants Jan 24. DEI should incorporate into the plan, but we also need a debrief, including more info about different cultures and the solutions specific to their communities. Nalini will send an e-mail after the initial meeting with the consultants or an update at the next meeting.

A question was raised whether the committees we discussed at a previous meeting are still functional.

Bringing energy efficiency to older neighborhoods is a challenge. We can help bring them needed info, but can the city provide any financial or other assistance? Could Xcel assist with this issue? Financing?

People are not well versed in tax credits and other incentives. How can we or the city help educate about possible incentives and how to access, with trusted information. Is this something Partners in Energy could help with? Elevations Credit Union offers energy efficiency loans. Are they or similar credit unions a possible partner? Could we partner with the Chamber to find local financial entities willing to

assist with this? If the City had budget for needed staff, they could assist people with issues like this as other municipalities do. There may be helpful info from the state level Clean Energy fund.

Education for the community is a high priority. We should do in concert with other city or Chamber events rather than trying to do our own.

Overall, how does the committee fit into what the city is doing? We need more interaction with other city committees and boards. The parks committee may come to the next meeting to discuss turf issues. We need connection with building code advisory. Lakewood, Superior, and Denver have sustainability in their building codes. The Comp Plan will be updated soon and the current one doesn't have sustainability in it. City planning is all done from that framework.

Our focus with Council prior to their retreat should be the Climate Action Plan. Opportunities to provide comment Jan 22 and Feb 5. Climate Action Plan is a major priority for us. Nalini will share updates from meeting with consultants.

How can we support a compost transfer station? Randy suggests conversation with Republic, maybe invite them to committee to talk about what they are doing related to composting. Asking for yard waste collection might be a good place to start.

Recycling in Olde Town – Randy will be meeting with the BID. We should push for recycling bins for the public in Olde Town with city staff. Nalini will follow up.

We will have new appointees to the Committee in April after city process done.

7:30 p.m. Adjournment