



TOWN OF ERIE

645 Holbrook Street
Erie, CO 80516

Meeting Minutes Sustainability Advisory Board

Wednesday, November 1, 2023,

6:30 PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

At 6:30

2. ROLL CALL

Alissa Kuzmich, Art Henderlong, Kaycee Headrick, Rose Murphy

Also in attendance: Eryka Thorley, Zac Swank, Trustee Emily Baer, Dylan King, Caleb Norder, Emma Marino

NOTE: Robert has resigned from the board.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

October minutes approved.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

No public comment

Guest Speaker: Zach Swank brought a draft for the Boulder County Emissions Reduction Goals. He noted that there was some reduction in emissions between 2016-2021 but that it could mostly be attributed to COVID. The goal will be to reduce emissions by 80% between 2021 and 2030 levels. These goals include using more solar and wind for electrical generation and use. There are things that can help such as increase in heat pump use and increasing the percentage of electric vehicles to 35%. These things will not get BOCO to the goal but will help. There are 50 strategies that will also help. They include addressing disparities in racial, economic, geographic and owners/renters. Rebates for expensive technologies will only help high income residents. We need to make sustainable changes available to all residents. Other challenges include overturning the 1975 preemption that makes it difficult to set more strict regulations. Supporting the Air Quality Control Commission's efforts to regulate outdoor pollution from building combustion. Addressing the challenge faced by commercial building owners who are facing 30-40% vacancy rates. They cannot afford upgrades to electrify. Energy efficiency improvements are not just better HVAC systems. Gains can be made by improvements in insulation and air sealing. There need to be tiered incentives for low- and median-income property owners to reduce their carbon footprints by switching to heat pumps and improving insulation, windows and doors. There needs to be an improved approved contractor list for installing heat pumps for heat/AC and water heating. The permitting process needs to be streamlined. It was noted that the incentives available from grants will help but would only address the carbon reduction changes of perhaps 10,000 homes. Trustee Baer noted that the Erie landfill is not in the BOCO district but produces methane that is measurable in BOCO. All of Erie and Longmont, not just the Boulder County portions need to be included in these studies, plans and incentives. Among the problems with including these areas are taxes. The City of Boulder has a climate tax that helps fund emission reduction incentives and programs. Erie does not. Zach ended his presentation with 3 priorities: policy, transportation, and building improvements to stop burning fossil fuels. His Power Point presentation was emailed to SAB members 11/1/23.

Trustee Hoback

Trustee Hoback reported that the Trustees have been working on the budget. He has been working with RCAB on a statewide recycling initiative. Erie is not on track with the goal of finding/creating a large-scale industrial composting center.

Staff Reports

Emma noted that Erie is applying for a Front Range Waste Divergent Grant through the Front Range Waste Diversion grant through CDPHA. The Town is exploring “pay as you throw”, Universal Recycling Ordinance and single hauler options. All have strengths and weaknesses. One option would be a system of single haulers per HOA.

Dylan reported on the completion of the 2023 water program. The turf replacement program was successful in removing 82018 sf of turf and replacing it with more water-wise landscaping. The only people who initially applied but did not receive rebate money were those who did not follow the rules of the program. There is \$27,000 remaining the turf replacement budget. These funds do not automatically roll into the next year. This year was for residents only. Next year businesses and HOA's may be considered. The town's unified development code requires living plant matter. It does not require turf. Trustee Hoback noted that Erie could amend the code to limit turf grass.

Eryka noted that the Town is developing a Sustainable Purchase Policy and EV Procurement Policy and a sustainable newsletter sent monthly to emails.

Other Items

SAB budget. The purchase and location of a TUFF shed was discussed. Art provided the cost of \$2609 for a 10'x10' shed, without foundation. Inside shelving would be needed. The location is still being considered. Requirements of distance from other structures and drainage will be factors influencing the decision. Currently, a space in the yard of the Pierce Street house is being considered.

NO-IDLE signage purchase was discussed. These could be placed at schools in conjunction with education of the public. The officials from each school will need to be contacted. Logistics of mounting the signs will need to be worked out.

Alissa received a price of \$1564.99 for totes with an 'Earth Day Every Day' message on them.

Art discussed the possibility of using funds to pay volunteer organizations to monitor the waste/recycle bins at events. Niwot does this. Rose agreed to talk to Pat at the Erie Chamber to see if there is also an interest in businesses monitoring the bins and promoting their businesses.

Ecocycle used \$4000.00 to make 22 school presentations. They will donate one more presentation.

Alissa motioned to vote on the purchase of a 10' x 10' wooden Tuff Shed to be placed on Town property. Shed to be purchased from funds remaining in the 2023 SAB budget. Second by Art. Motion carried. Alissa noted that the purchase of shelves for the shed will be revisited in December.

Leaf event update

Caleb noted that the platform to go between the 40- and 20-yard dumpsters has been delivered. Site work is ongoing. More volunteers are needed. A check list of tasks for the event is needed. Point person is needed. Leaves are going to a Western Disposal facility where they will be ground up and amended with other compostables.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

Next regular meeting –December 6, 2023, at 6:30