

SANTA FE CLIMATE ACTION TASK FORCE

MEETING NOTES: APRIL 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Climate Action Task Force was called to order by Councilor Ives at 4:10pm.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

David Van Winkle
Jack McGowan
Owen Lopez
Robb Hirsch
Councilor Ives
Beth Beloff
Eliza Harrison
Johanna Whysner
Commissioner Kathy Holian
Glenn Schiffbauer
Kristina Fisher

Members Absent

David Coss (excused)
Randy Grissom (excused)
Julia Furry
Gov. George Rivera

Staff Present

John Alejandro, Renewable Energy Planner

Public Present

Ethan Green

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update: Eliza Harrison - Changing Households, Changing Communities Initiative

Ms. Harrison provided an update to the task force about her Changing Households, Changing Communities Initiative. She stated that the initiative would be taken on by the Climate Change Leadership Institute (Robb Hirsch), and that a partnership between CCLI, the Santa Fe Community College, the City of Santa Fe, and the NM Mortgage Finance Authority was in development, with the primary goal being to scale-up the initiative to serve approximately 150 households. Conversations were to continue, and it was anticipated that the program would be introduced to the community by mid- to late-summer.

2. Follow-up: Green Community Program & 25-year Sustainability Plan Resolution

Mr. Alejandro reported that the resolution related to the green community program and the 25-year sustainability plan passed the city council, and that he would be reaching out to members of the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission and others on the task force that expressed interest in being a part of the creation of that plan. He noted that the timeline for the creation and completion of the plan would be anywhere between 6-8 months, depending on the schedule of summer meetings. Development of the plan is scheduled to start in June, he said.

3. Working Group Reports

EERE & Finance: Mr. McGowan reported that the joint meeting of these two working groups focused on identifying additional near and short-term objectives, in addition to discussing ways to support city resolutions that may be coming forth by members of the city council related to the task force's set of recommendations.

Ms. Beloff reported on the presentation made to the working group by Martha Campbell of the Rocky Mountain Institute, related to community energy transformations, using Fort Collins, Colorado as the presentation's example. It was reported that the presentation was very informative, yet more time could have been allotted to review and discussion of it. As such, Ms. Beloff suggested that Martha be invited back to another meeting, or possibly give a webcast to the group in the near future.

She also reported that the finance group discussed several possible options to finance a host of watershed restoration projects that were presented to the working group by Mr. Andy Otto, executive director of the Santa Fe Watershed Association, who has been working with the Water, Land Management, and Food Security working group to develop the projects. It was decided that Mr. Neal Skiver would work more closely with the WLMFS group to finalize potential funding options.

WLMFS: Commissioner Holian noted that the working group would be coming forth with a set of recommendations for consideration by the task force at the May 14 meeting. As just discussed, a large area of focus will be on the watershed management programs.

In addition, the group discussed a set of federal dietary guidelines that the Santa Fe Food Policy Council was advocating support for, and noted that the council would soon be in contact with the city to discuss a potential resolution showing such support formally.

Waste Management & Recycling: Councilor Ives reported that he and Mr. Alejandro attended a Solid Waste and Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting whereupon he discussed ways the groups might be able to collaborate efforts. It was noted that Cindy Padilla was back with the city in the position of director of Environmental Services, and that she has a seat on SWAC. As SWAC ramps up its subcommittee efforts, there may be opportunity to leverage that group's work within the task force.

Transportation: It was noted by Mr. Schiffbauer that the working group will be taking on additional participants, and that recommendations from that group should be forthcoming shortly after the WLMFS working group's recommendations. A meeting will be set with the new group in late May.

3. HeathSun Presentation

Jim Heath of HeathSun gave a presentation on his nonprofit's project to provide solar systems to homeowners throughout Santa Fe. The systems would be provided to homeowners free of charge, and the price they would pay for that electricity would be below that of PNM's, and would be payable directly to HeathSun. The systems would be owned and maintained by HeathSun. Mr. Heath is in the process of beginning an education campaign to inform Santa Feans of this program, and begin collecting the names of individuals who are may be interested in participating in the program. Expected roll-out of the program could begin as early as 2016.

The task force expressed interest in this program, and requested that it be kept up to date on its progress.

4. Items from the Co-chairs

None were identified.

5. Items from the Task Force

Mr. Van Winkle provided an update on the PNM replacement power case before the PRC, noting that the hearing examiner had made recommendation to the commission that it deny PNM's proposal. He also noted that a motion had been filed to dismiss PNM's rate case, due to an improper/incomplete filing of its application. A decision by the hearing examiner on that was forthcoming.

Mr. McGowan noted that he had been in conversation with Envision Charlotte, an organization in North Carolina working on energy issues, about coming to Santa Fe to present to the task force and mayor their work and how it may be applied to the city of Santa Fe. The June meeting of the task force would be ideal, and he said he would connect with Mr. Alejandro on trying to coordinate scheduling.

6. Items from the Staff

None were identified.

7. Items from the Public

None were identified.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ives adjourned the meeting at 5:40pm.