

**Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)**

**Solid Waste Subcommittee**

**Wednesday, January 23, 2024, 12:00 PM**

**Zoom Meeting**

**1. Call to Order**

Solid Waste Subcommittee Chair Nick Waldo called the meeting to order at 12:12 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Nick Waldo and Marian Call. Members Absent: Jessie Barker.

***A quorum was present.***

Staff Members of the public: Jen Nu, Sustainable Southeast Partnership. Liaison Dianna Robinson present.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Nick Waldo proposed adding an item to the agenda; Prep for meeting with Assembly members and CBJ staff about municipal composting. Jen Nu had to take a phone call, so Public Participation was moved to the end of the meeting. Marian seconded; item was added to agenda as item 2.

**4. Agenda Topics**

**1. Sustainability Session Planning**

Dianna has proposed an idea for two Sustainability Sessions: An FAQ/Q&A session on solid waste issues in Juneau in the Valley, and a second Downtown. CBJ staff, Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist, and Stuart Ashton, Recycle Works Operations Manager, will be the presenters. Staff will give a brief overview of solid waste management in Juneau and answer some frequently asked questions at the top. The rest of the event will be Q&A about solid waste in Juneau, including recycling, composting, the landfill, and zero waste.

- a) Nick thinks this is a good idea as recently Alaska Waste has skipped two weeks of trash pickup due to snowstorms, and many people on Facebook are confused about who does what.
- b) Marian asked about JCOS involvement. Dianna said that she would like the events to be JCOS Sustainability Sessions; those interested in sustainability in the community know to look to JCOS for informational events, and this fits perfectly into their mission.
- c) Discussion occurred about how the last Sustainability Session on November 2<sup>nd</sup> showed that people are passionate about the topic of waste in the community, and that it illustrated the need for more community engagement on this topic.
- d) Locations for each session: the Valley Library was a great location in November, but the Downtown library isn't quite as great of a meeting space for these types of events. Dianna asked for alternate downtown locations, and Marian suggested the high school as it has many different sized rooms and can meet our technology needs. Dianna will follow-up about that idea.

- a. The group also discussed a future meeting at the Douglas library. Nick pointed out that parking isn't great there, so it might be a good idea to wait for better weather so that people can walk.
- e) Dianna shared results from a recent survey CBJ sent out to a mailing list of people interested in solid waste /zero waste issues in the community to help guide the discussion around events:
  - 55% of respondents would attend online only, while 38% would attend in person.
  - The best days and times for meetings for 90% of respondents was weekdays after 6pm. The second best was lunchtime on weekdays. Marian suggested future online-only events during lunchtime.
- f) A discussion between Marian and Dianna occurred about acquiring better technology for meetings. The last Sustainability Session did not create a very good recording. Marian offered to help recommend items to CBJ staff and offered to help train them on how to operate the equipment.
- g) A discussion occurred about the best day to hold the first event at the Valley library. The date of February 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-7:30 was selected. This time slot will give people time to come home, eat dinner, and come to the meeting while also giving the presenters a 30-minute buffer before the library closes at 8pm.
- h) Marian stated that she would not be able to create the poster and meeting graphics in time; Dianna said that she could take care of that piece.
- i) Marian will reach out to KTOO and KINY to see if she can get on the radio. Dianna mentioned Problem Corner. Marian said that would also be a good place to advertise, and that will also be looked into.
- j) Dianna will reach out to a few reporters to see if there is interest in covering the event. Marian mentioned that there is a new beat reporter at KINY; Dianna will also look into contacting that reporter.

## 2. Meeting with CBJ

Nick briefly outlined a meeting occurring the next day, January 24, 2024, that he is attending with CBJ staff and a few Assembly members to discuss municipal composting. Dianna mentioned that she will be attending. He will report back to the group after the meeting.

## 5. **Public Participation**

Jen Nu from Ecotrust, a member of Sustainable Southeast Partnership, introduced herself to the group. She deals with food security and food waste issues specifically and attended the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Sustainability Session on composting. She offered to work with JCOS and CBJ on future outreach in these areas and is especially interested in local/regional composting. Marian stated that she is excited to find ways for JCOS, CBJ and Sustainable Southeast Partnership to work together.

## 8. **Next Meetings**

- Solid Waste Subcommittee (w/ Outreach Subcommittee) – February 13, 12-1pm
- Sustainability Session – February 20, 6:30-7:30pm

## 9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:02pm.