

**Basalt Green Team**  
**April 12, 2021**  
**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**  
***Via Zoom***

*Attendees included Susan Philp, Sara Nadolny, Gerry Terwilliger, Phi Filerman, Catherine Christoff, Doug Goldsmith, Mary Wiener, Greg Smith, Martin Bonzi and Amanda Poindexter*

Meeting started at 3:34 pm.

Agenda Items:

- Approve Minutes from 2/8/2021
- Appoint Representative & Alternate to Capital Needs Committee
- Member/Participant Updates
- Discuss 2021 Work Program, Major Projects & Next Steps
- Elect Chair & Vice Chair to Green Team – *time permitting*

Susan introduced Catherine Christoff, the new Town Engineer. Green Team members and participants introduced themselves.

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

M/S Greg Smith and Martin Bonzi to approve the meeting minutes from March 8, 2021. Motion passed 4 to 0.

### **2. Appoint Representative & Alternate to Capital Needs Committee**

Susan explained that the Town is creating a Capital Needs Committee that will involve one representative and one alternate from each of the Town's committees, such as BACH, POST, VALE, and also the Chamber of Commerce. The Capital Needs Committee will make recommendations to the Town Council regarding Town-owned buildings and facilities, and also make recommendations regarding the pursuit of projects that were identified as important by the general public within the Basalt Master Plan. The Town is interested in making progress in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Out of the 13 top projects listed in the Master Plan, several are related to environmental sustainability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CORE and Holy Cross Energy recently performed site visits of the Town-owned buildings and facilities with the Town's consultants – Cushing Terrell. They looked at building permit records, plans etc.

The Representative and Alternate must live in the Town of Basalt limits. The Committee will start meeting in May with and will provide recommendations to the Town Council in August. Meetings will be held twice monthly on Mondays. The recommendations may be used to amend the Town's five-year Capital Improvement Plan. There are also a few bonds that are sunsetting in the next year or two. If the

current mill levy can be maintained the Town can raise a considerable amount of funds for projects and capital improvements. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Town Council on funding.

Susan said that if the voting is not done today Green Team members would need to hold a special meeting to vote on electing a Representative and Alternate as they will need to be appointed before the end of April. Gerry said that Pranav is an obvious choice, but he is not here to accept the nomination. Martin and Doug seconded Pranav's appointment. If Pranav does not accept, Staff will request a Special Meeting with the Green Team members to appoint a new representative.

M/S Gerry and Martin to appoint Pranav and if does not accept to hold a special meeting. Motion passed 4 to 0.

M/S Martin and Doug Alternate to appoint Gerry as the second appointee. Motion passed 4 to 0.

### **3. Member/Participant Updates**

Mary Weiner (Holy Cross Electric) reported that she enjoyed the three days spent with Cushing Terrell working on the Facilities Needs Assessment and is looking forward to seeing the report. Mary thinks the Assessment will provide a good foundation for deciding where to put the Town's energy and money.

HCE did a press release for the Power Purchase Agreement with CMC, 5 mega-watt solar system at CMC Spring Valley campus which will go online in 2022. She said the campus gets good sun orientation and has a lot of space for the system, which includes both solar and battery storage. The system will help HCE to get to 100% renewable energy by 2030.

HCE is hosting an online Kilowatt Talks at 5:30 on Wednesday. They will be discussing what happened in Texas and the effects of deregulation. The impact affected the whole national grid, not just Texas.

Martin Bonzi (Aspen Global Change Institute) reported that AGCI will be virtually hosting their first workshop of the year this coming Wednesday. The topic is forest carbon mitigation potentials. The lecture is open to the public. The speaker is from the UK and will be discussing how tropical forests will impact climate change.

Doug Goldsmith (Mountain Waste) reported seeing several buildings turning on service recently. He said construction is also increasing, bringing business to Mountain Waste.

Gerry Terwilliger reported that the community garden is going well and may even go to full capacity this season for the first time. There is a lot more interest in gardening where people can grow own healthy food.

Greg Smith reported on LED lighting. He noted that outdoor LED lighting is considerably brighter. Mary said that the brightness can disrupt sleep patterns. Some are dimmable, but generally people are starting to use a less impactful kelvin. Greg said that all exterior lights in his neighborhood are not supposed to be exposed, but not everyone follows the rules.

Amanda (USGBC, Full Circle Construction) said that construction in Basalt is booming. She is fielding lots of plan reviews and getting people to build better. USGBC is hosting a virtual Basalt Vista tour on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The tour will be recorded and will have Q&A time.

Phi (CORE) announced that CORE is giving away free energy assessments during the month of April which is being advertised in the newspapers. CORE is also getting back proposals for the greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory consultants next week.

Phi mentioned that Pitkin County put out an interesting RFP asking for consultant to analyze the greenhouse gas emissions embodied in the construction industry, such as that involved in transportation, demolishing structures, size of buildings, etc. The Community Development Department is interested in understanding the true impacts of development, and how can code changes be made around greenhouse gas emissions reduction. She anticipates more conversation around embodied energy in building materials next on the horizon, and the part it plays into meeting greenhouse gas emission goals.

CORE toured TACAW, which is an all-electric building, including the commercial kitchen. CORE is interested in partnering with organizations to play up the electrification angle.

Sara Nadolny (TOB) provided update on Eagle County conversation with John Gitchell. Eagle County will be adopting the new energy codes at some point in 2022. Eagle County is not currently planning on pursuing any plastics ban but would potentially be interested in partnering with Basalt if the Town decides to take on this topic. Jesse Masten has been back in touch regarding getting a hard to recycle materials event going for this year.

#### **4. Discuss 2021 Work Program, Major Projects & Next Steps**

SWEEP is working with outside consultant who is going to write code amendments for all jurisdictions to consider in their adoption of the 2021 Energy Code. Amanda will get an update on this. Susan said that the 2021 Energy Code will require more renewables and energy efficiency, which will mean less issues will be addressed within the Sustainable Building Regulations.

Phi said what is really important is for all jurisdictions to consider supporting the adoption of the same code cycle. Many jurisdictions are currently using different codes. This creates confusion in the building industry who would benefit from consistency. Code consistency would also make it easier to provide support and trainings.

Phi said that SWEEP has put together a set of code-ready amendments to help municipalities to work toward beneficial electrification in their communities. She noted that the power grid is getting greener. Using electricity instead of natural gas significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions. There is a push to adopt codes that require the elimination of gas in buildings, which is critical to help meet greenhouse gas emission goals.

Susan said SWEEP has done a great job in crafting their proposed amendments to the Building Code. Basalt would likely go the route of electric preferred rather than electric only due to required infrastructure, etc. Phi said that in terms of cost, new buildings are relatively equal if the construction does not involve bringing in a gas line. Other market barriers to going all-electric include the building industry, heating and knowledge/use of heat pumps, education, and people's love of gas stoves.

SolSmart Update – Phi is looking to schedule meeting a week from Thursday. The intent is to go to the Town Council on May 25 or June 8 to report in on where we want to go with SolSmart and some other

projects. Basalt Forward 2030 will take care of operational costs in how the Town is addressing electrification.

Phi said that CORE is looking to have meeting with Building Department and other Town Staff and CORE Board to talk about what we are working on in terms of codes, and to work on developing similar language.

Sara and Susan to check in with materials from SWEEP regarding electrification.

Catherine discussed moving forward on installing charging stations, installing conduit for future stations, funding possibilities, etc. Energy already there, and more visibility for charging stations along Two Rivers Road.

**5. Elect Chair & Vice Chair to Green Team – *time permitting***

Election of Chair/Vice Chair will take place at May's Green Team meeting.

M/S Greg Smith and Martin Bonzi to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 pm.