

Basalt Green Team
July 12, 2021
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Via Zoom and at Town Hall

Attendees included Susan Philp, Sara Nadolny, Catherine Christoff, Martin Bonzi, Gerry Terwilliger, Pranav Lakhina, Doug MacDonald, Katie Schwoerer, Mike Steiner, Amanda Poindexter
Guest: Jeff Dickinson

Meeting started at 3:34 pm.

Agenda Items:

- Approve Minutes from 6/14/2021
- Roadmap to Net Zero Buildings with Jeff Dickinson
- Discuss Potential Green Capital Project
- Update on Capital Needs Committee
- Member/Participant Updates

1. Approval of Minutes

M/S Gerry Terwilliger and Doug Goldsmith to approve the meeting minutes from June 14, 2021. The motion passed 4 to 0.

2. Roadmap to Net Zero Buildings with Jeff Dickinson

Jeff Dickinson introduced himself – he is an architect and has a company called Biospaces, Inc. Jeff has a focus on energy and sustainable designs. He has worked with the Town of Basalt on the Sustainable Building Regulations rewrite, and also does similar work for Carbondale and Summit County among others.

Jeff told the Green Team that he would like input on what codes are missing that the Green Team would like to add. How is the Town meeting its climate action goals? Jeff's focus is to create a roadmap of how to get to meet the Town's climate action goals through building codes.

Jeff shared with the Green Team a presentation. Ways to meet climate action goals for new construction may be achieved through new zero construction techniques, mandating renewables, beneficial electrification, and eliminating natural gas in buildings.

Sara will send Jeff's report to the Green Team which provides residential and commercial recommendations. Jeff said we need to understand what motivates the building community.

The group discussed the issue of leaving a building unfinished with just the core and shell – the thought was that ultimately tenant finishes should be lesser.

Amanda reported that the Town is on-track to adopt the newest building code (2021 International Codes) in 2021, just behind Aspen and Pitkin County which will probably be in 2022.

3. Discussion Potential Green Capital Project

Susan noted the Green Team needs to talk about battery storage. Battery backup equals resiliency.

Mary said the Town should phase out the use of gas, noting that induction is better than gas for cooking.

Catherine wants embodied energy to be built into the conversation.

Heating the outdoors – how to regulate this?

Items for discussion at next Green Team meeting to include:

- Exterior wall fireplaces are inefficient. Should the Town consider adding a penalty?
- Battery – still fairly new. Will it get to a better technology? Will costs come down?
- Discussion of movable solar arrays
- PV solar field at the high school with battery backup – we need to be careful that the project benefits the Town and not just the school district.
- How to use the Net Zero Roadmap to help in prioritizing projects
- Beneficial electrification – issues and opportunities
 - Payment in lieu of solar could be used to contribute to offsetting heat pumps
 - How to retire existing systems?
 - Retrofitting can be significantly expensive.

4. Capital Needs Committee Update

Gerry reported that at the last Capital Needs Committee meeting there was discussion of priority projects and the results of the public survey.

The circulator shuttle has been removed from consideration due to the ongoing costs associated with operations, which would not fit into the bond.

The idea of placing solar panels over parking spaces has been considered as a Green project, but there are issues such as snow removal, and the Town does not own any surface parking lots.

M/S Doug Goldsmith and Gerry Terwilliger to adjourn. Motion passed.
The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:00 pm.

