



SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, August 24, 2017

Present: Jillian Kasow (Chair) ; Pete Sheehan (Vice-Chair), Joe Coffey, Chris Spencer, Frank Zeoli, Bill Trudeau, Kevin Luteran

Absent: Scott Kellog, Randy Milano, Sandy Misiewicz, Lori Quillen (Co-Secretary), Ewa Sobczynska (Co-Secretary), Jennifer Viggiani

Note: Due to a lack of a quorum, the meeting is not considered an official meeting of the Albany Sustainability Advisory Committee and no official actions were taken.

Observers: Mary Millus (Senior Planner, City of Albany), Adriana Le Blan (Assistant Corporation Counsel); David Galin, Special Assistant to the Mayor/Policy Analyst

The meeting began with Chair Jillian Kasow introducing David Galin. Mr. Galin stated that in his role he would be the Mayor's representative to the Sustainability Advisory Council. He also stated that the Mayor anticipated attending a couple of the meetings in person during the next year. Mr. Galin stated that he is seeking input from the Committee in making Albany more sustainable in its operations and fulfilling its commitments regarding sustainability. He added that he is seeking to collect information regarding these issues and would appreciate the assistance of the Committee in doing so. On behalf of the Committee, Jillian Kasow welcomed Mr. Galin and pledged the Committee's assistance in his efforts.

Public Comment: A City of Albany resident, Carol Tanney, along with League of Women Voters members Aimee Allaud and Mary Beilby, brought up the subjects of composting by the City and commented on the current status of anaerobic digestion at the City's landfill.

Commissioner Updates: Water Board Commissioner Joe Coffey presented information on the agreement between the Nature Conservancy and the City of Albany in the Nature Conservancy's Working Woodlands Program. The City will earn revenue from carbon credits associated with the forested woodlands surrounding the Basic Creek and Alcove Reservoirs, which include approximately 6,400 acres. One of the main undertakings of the program is a forest and carbon inventory and calculating the carbon benefits that trees provide. There is no cost to the City in entering the program and as explained by Mr. Coffey. As noted in the Times Union and referenced in the recent press announcement, the City could earn up to \$500,000 over the next 10 years.

