

**LRAPA CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(CAC) Meeting Notes
VIA ZOOM**



March 29, 2022

Attending: Jim Daniels (Chair), Kelly Wood (Vice Chair), Terry Richardson, Paul Metzler, Evelina Davidova-Kamis, Jeffrey Carman, Peter Dragovich, and Chris Cline.

Absent: Shane Ruddell, Eric Burdette (both excused)

Staff: Debby Wineinger, Steve Dietrich, Beth Erickson, and Travis Knudsen.

Call to Order: 12:00 p.m.

Call to Order/Agenda Review:

Chair Jim Daniels called the meeting to order with a quorum met. **Jim. Daniels** then opened the meeting to Public Participation.

Public Participation: None

March Board Meeting overview:

Chair Daniels reported that the March Board Meeting was preceded by a LRAPA budget committee meeting. This was the first of three with further meetings scheduled for April and May. During the Board Meeting he introduced the four new CAC applicants to the Board. The Board voted to appoint **Peter Dragovich** as a second Community Planning Representative and **Chris Cline** as a Fire Suppression Representative. **Chair Daniels** added that two applications from the general public were postponed in order to allow more opportunity for applicants from other areas of Lane County. The Board wants CAC to include a broader geographic representation.

Nominations and Appointments-Chair and Vice Chair:

Chair Daniels explained that election of the committee Chair and Vice-Chair occurs each March. He described the Chairperson's primary responsibilities: conduct CAC meetings, attend Board meetings, and oversee projects as directed by the Board. **Paul Metzler** made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Carman, to nominate **Jim Daniels** to the office of Chairperson. There were no other nominations for Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Daniels informed the group that the primary obligation of the Vice-Chair position is to conduct meetings in the absence of the Chairperson. **Chair Daniels** made a motion, seconded by **Paul Metzler**, to nominate **Kelly Wood** to the office of Vice-Chairperson. There were no other nominations for Vice-Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Interview CAC Candidate – James Bruvold

Mr. Bruvold was not in attendance of the meeting. Travis Knudson later informed the committee that Mr. Bruvold was unable to connect to the ZOOM link. His interview will be re-scheduled.

Continued Discussion: Gas Powered Tools:

Paul. Metzler reported that there had been lots of general discussion regarding gas powered tools, but he determined to gather some local information and garnered photos and posting of tools for sale at Jerry's Home Improvement. He noted that Jerry's had one midline leaf blower in stock with battery and charger but no emissions or noise factors. **Chris Cline** queried what was driving the discussions regarding gas powered tools and whether there would be a move to do away with them. **Chair**

Daniels summarized the current project assigned by the Board of Directors. **Travis Knudsen** further explained that a similar project was completed by the CAC last year to educate the public regarding outdoor burning and those pamphlets were posted at the recent home and garden show; 60 pamphlets were printed and twenty returned. Chris Cline explained that gas powered tool use is legally restricted during the fire season, but those restrictions do not apply to electric tools. In further discussion it was noted that common fire ignition sources are due to lawn mower and chainsaw rock strikes. Leaf blowers would not be a fire source as they operate too far above fuel. **Kelly Wood** noted that she was surprised to read the increasing incidents of electric car batteries causing fires. **Steve Dietrich** added that parking cars in dry fields is also a contributor to fire hazard. **Peter Dragovich** said that the state of California would be leading a ban of gas powered tools with a goal of phasing them out over the next five years. However, he added that California would be offering vouchers to residents toward the purchase of new tools and noted that might be a model for Oregon.

Kelly Wood presented a handout titled “Electric versus Gas Powered Tools” as a first draft of a pamphlet addressing the pros and cons of electric tools versus gas powered tools. **Paul Metzler** suggested replacing the diagrams of chainsaws with leaf blowers, since that was the tool of most concern. **Chris Cline** suggested rather than increasing the size of the pamphlet that it might behoove the committee to add links to pertinent sites. **Chair Daniels** added that including possible health effects of exposure to gas tool exhaust would be appropriate also. **Paul Metzler** noted that Sanipac had advertised the need to safely dispose of batteries due to the number that have started fires in dumpsters. **Steve Dietrich** reminded the committee that LRAPA’s focus would be on air quality only.

Chair Daniels stated any changes to the pamphlet may be emailed to **Kelly Wood** and a second draft would be available at the April meeting, with a goal to have a final revision ready for submittal to the Board soon after.

Roundtable:

- **Chair Daniels** asked LRAPA staff about the feasibility of the April CAC meeting conducted as a hybrid in-person and remote video meeting setting. The majority was in favor of that format. Meetings would be held in the LRAPA meeting room unless attendance surpassed capacity.
- **Travis Knudsen** stated the meeting room should be adequate up to nineteen attendees.
- **Paul Metzler** expressed the desire to revisit the December Springfield incident regarding a resident committing suicide via hydrogen sulfide. He noted that he had not been able to follow up as the fire marshal report had not been made available. Steve Dietrich replied that it was a one car one person incident and emergency personnel responded. He also said it's more of an OSHA, or depending on the facility itself, it could be an MSHA requirement, both of those agencies, which are federal, have rules that are followed by all industry when it comes to that kind of safety of those kinds of hazardous chemicals. **Paul Metzler** said if that's the case, he will drop any further inquiry on it since it's not in our lane.
- **Evalina Davidova-Kamis** suggested the gas tools pamphlet have air pollution issues separated out from the rest of the items and the committee agreed.
- **Chris Cline** noted that he would be interested in any discussions regarding wildfire smoke air quality and good smoke versus bad smoke.
- Adjourned 12:56 p.m.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 26, 2022

(Recorded by Marlene Hockema)