

Charleston Green Team Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 30, 2021

The Charleston Green Team held its introductory meeting at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. Chair Emmett Pepper welcomed the committee and explained that there would be no action items for a vote at this orientation meeting. He reviewed our charge of sustainability, per the City Council ordinance, and we discussed means of official communication. It was determined by consensus to collaborate on letters to the Mayor and copy appropriate officials when we have specific recommendations or policy.

Team members introduced themselves and provided a little of their background & interests: Linda Frame, Justin Marlowe, Patti Hamilton, Ted Ambrecht, James Young, Rod Watkins, Emmett Pepper, and Pam Nixon (advisor).

We reviewed a draft of guiding principles for prioritizing projects and policies and agreed by consensus:

- A shared priority of the Administration
- Broadly supported by Charleston residents
- Cost-effective, either by saving money or having a low cost to taxpayers
- Likely to have a large reduction of environmental impacts
- Equitable, including benefits for minority, low-income, and underrepresented populations
- Well-vetted through transparent public process

Following this discussion, Mayor Amy Goodwin joined the meeting. She concurred with the guiding principles which will be adopted at a subsequent meeting.

Mayor Goodwin suggested a plan for 5 years that includes schools and businesses as well as looking for small wins. Discussion centered around recycling and we discussed outreach to the county and other cities, source separation vs. single stream, and looking at successful programs in other cities around the country. As an example, Ted found 20 cities including Boise, Idaho that have a successful recycling program. He also noted that Boise has prioritized bike paths that have brought in \$138 million in revenue.

It was suggested for the next meeting that each team member find an idea from another city for each of our 4 categories (Energy; Land Use, Water Resources & Transportation; Public Education & Communication; Litter, Waste & Recycling) to present to the group. Another suggestion is to prioritize which of these categories we will focus on for 2021. Following discussion of whether to put the categories into committees, it was determined by consensus to work on all of them as a team unless a smaller work group is needed.

Team Up to Clean Up dates will be publicized soon and we are asked to help promote and participate.

The next meeting is set for April 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned.