

# **MEETING MINUTES OF THE BURN PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE Monday, May 24, 2012 via ZOOM**

**IN ATTENDANCE: Greg Arrigotti, Tonya Johnson, Johanna Peeters Weem, Ed Uecker. Excused: Fallon Harris**

**Meeting started at 7:00 pm and ended at 7:38 pm** (ZOOM allows only 40 minute meetings on their free accounts. Public access to live meeting was enabled.) Agenda was set based on compiled list of questions, concerns, and ideas submitted by each member.

- (1) Welcome/Call to Order at 7:02 pm.
- (2) Ed reported on question regarding clarity and scope of this subcommittee's mission and expectations to the Forest Grove City Council (FGCC) through Councilor Uhing who said she would take up those questions with the City Council so we could better focus our efforts.
- (3) No one had a great deal of time to fully review the materials sent to us by Elizabeth Stover from the Air Quality (AQ) Program in Hillsboro. Greg pointed out that Hillsboro's AQ inputs are vastly different than our own because they have more industry and more services to support AQ. We all agreed to give the Hillsboro documents a thorough reading before our next meeting in two weeks and makes notes at which ideas we might borrow and which ideas might not work for Forest Grove (FG) and why. We'll also look at Metro AQ standards and industrial impacts on AQ in FG.
- (4) Johanna had inquired whether a ban or new plan was needed at all given the existing Metro requirements and thought that perhaps we weren't communicating those requirements effectively enough. All members acknowledged the communications issues, but Ed pointed out that we can't really address until we get our actual mission/goal specifics back from the FGCC. Greg commented on how many people can't get the message straight twice a year when they can put out six extra bags of trash for pickup. We all agreed to give the communications problems some thought and attempt to come to the next meeting with some potentially impactful improvements. Also, how would a plan affect State or County land in FG? Enforcement was also touched upon.
- (5) Ed raised the idea of authorizing burn periods in sections of the city, possibly using a map like the one now used for scheduling leaf pickups. The three big issues with this approach were A) What if it's pouring rain during the entire period my neighborhood is scheduled for pickup? B) Want to avoid compelling burns during two weeks of rain when they might use diesel fuel to start a fire in the rain adding to pollution, and C) Individual health concerns at AQ. (Does the city have any data on health complaints during burning?) The issue of enforcement of any such proscribed periods was raised but tabled until a later time when we have a firmer plan in hand.

(6) There was a consensus that some sort of air quality measurement system and support strategy was an absolute necessity if we are going to be able to justify the need in advance and prove that a ban or plan is actually working once in place. Greg has graciously agreed to take the point on gathering information on cost of equipment and networking as well as other options for perhaps “farming out” the measure and data collection & delivery to an institution capable of handling the requirement, and who may already have the necessary equipment in place (Pacific University, Oregon State University, University of Oregon, or even more local industries willing to partner, etc.) We’ll also look at potential grant resources. All other team members agreed to provide Greg with administrative and “legwork” support so he can focus on the technical issues. Greg also noted that because of his work with his current employer he would need to check with Elizabeth Stover and Paul Downey to insure there was no conflict of interest involved.

(7) Ed to prepare Minutes/Notes from the ZOOM Video transcription. Tonya agreed to present the 10 minute “progress report” to the Sustainability Commission on 5/27.

(8) Next meeting of this Subcommittee is scheduled for Monday, June 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm. All members are in agreement.

#### (9) FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

- \* If available, review and discuss FGCC responses to our mission and parameters questions and how it impacts prior Subcommittee ideas & discussions.
- \* Review of Hillsboro AQ materials.
- \* Progress Report of A. Data Gathering Equipment and support requirements (possible costs?).
- \* Communications ideas and options.
- \* Any FG data on AQ related health complaints while burning is open?

(10) Adjourned at 7:38 pm.