CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Environmental Advisory Board

DATE OF MEETING: March 9, 2016

NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Sandy Briggs, 303-441-1931.

NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT:
Environmental Advisory Board Members Present: Tim Hillman, Brad Queen, Karen Crofton, Steve Morgan and Morgan Lommele.
Staff Members Present: Brett KenCairn and Sandy Briggs.
Community Members Present: Brenda Lee and Elizabeth Black

MEETING SUMMARY:

- **Sustainability Dashboard Memo (**Written by **Elyse Hottel)**
  - The board agrees the scope and timeline of the project is ambitious and could potentially become overly cumbersome.
  - One board member advocated spending more time mapping out the process prior to developing the tools and relying on those tools to map the process for achieving the objective.
  - It was also suggested that moving from goals to metrics to targets could get repetitive.
  - The board noticed that most of the work appears to be done and the biggest exercise at this point is data collation while keeping the metrics measurable and realistic.
  - The importance of keeping it simple and smart was recognized.
  - The board requests more information regarding the specific metrics being used as well as the opportunity to offer feedback and suggestions about them.

1. CALL TO ORDER
Environmental Advisory Board Chair **T. Hillman** declared a quorum called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
On a motion by **B. Queen**, seconded by **K. Crofton**, the Environmental Advisory Board voted 5-0 to approve the January 6, 2016 and February 3, 2016 meeting minutes.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- **Brenda Lee, Founder, Boulder Bear Coalition**
  B. Lee founded the non-profit coalition seven years ago due to community outcry about how Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) was handling black bear issues in the City of Boulder. She believes since there is now positive momentum towards solutions, it's the best time to do even more going forward.
  She sees enforcement as crucial but as of yet lacking, and encourages proactive planning to prevent reactionary decisions from council that could potentially create contention and

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therefore be counterproductive to the goal of protecting bears.
She does not believe it's acceptable that code enforcement won't enforce the ordinance outside the Secure Trash Regulation Zone when bears outside the zone are in just as much danger of being killed. This is counter to work already done and accomplishments made.
She would like to see it written into **V. Matheson's** report that enforcement can happen anywhere, not just within the Secure Trash Regulation Zone.
She references a draft of a CPW study full of questions that will be proposed to council in the near future. In her opinion, the objectives are great – reducing human/bear conflict – and the questions asked are valuable, but the methodology needs some work.
She wants to ensure the money proposed to be spent actually goes towards protecting bears.
According to B. Lee, the studies referenced in the ordinance update memo are more anecdotal than statistical and efforts should be made towards more education, monitoring and enforcement.
She provided detailed comments via email to the board and City Council one day prior to the meeting.
The board's comments are captured under the agenda item in Old Business/Updates.

❖ Elizabeth Black
E. Black encouraged the board to make recommendations to Council about the importance of sequestering carbon in Boulder's soil. She provided handouts, in addition to an emailed statement to the board and City Council one day prior to the meeting.
She requested some language regarding this topic be considered for addition to the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan update, among many other suggestions outlined in her written comments.

- One board member asked if she had an estimate of the potential sequestration capacity on city managed property. It was suggested she come up with this number as it would be useful in establishing the topic as a priority, and that quantitative cases lead to more action and are more likely to affect policy change.
- It was also suggested she could get some help from a research assistant at CU to gather metrics and solidify her case with quantifiable cost/benefit analyses.
- **B. Queen** will provide the name of his contact at CU who could be helpful to her while building a quantitative case.

5. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS
None.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS
A. Sustainability Dashboard Memo (Written by **Elyse Hottel**)
B. KenCairn reminded the board that there are two separate dashboard projects currently in development. One is a city-wide dashboard, larger in scope, and the other is specific to the Climate + Sustainability Division. It is the Sustainability Dashboard that will encompass and illuminate city program progress with climate, energy, zero waste and other sustainability projects distinctly from the city-wide dashboard.
He also pointed out the useful distinction between an indicator and a performance measure and how these relate to the metrics chosen and measured.
The board's comments are captured in the meeting summary.

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7. OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

A. Black Bear Protection Ordinance Update Memo (Written by **Valerie Matheson**)

- The board asked if there is there an alternate proposal to support the concerns about the currently proposed studies, in particular the collaring study.
- The board asked for clarification about what is considered the best use of the money available and one member suggested it be very specific regarding the costs and benefits involved.
- One board member expressed concern about where they will go when they are prevented from obtaining food from secured carts.
- The board also questioned how there could be so many "violations" noted in **B. Lee's** observations while only five were specifically called out in **V. Matheson's** memo. They suggested this would likely be from comparing apples and oranges and confusion with what's defined as a "violation" versus simply being "knocked down". As well as sampling questions about using equivalent areas and locations.
- Since it appears that there are significant differences between the data reported by B. Lee and the information in the memo, the board decided this is a good topic of discussion for the next meeting when **V. Matheson** will be in attendance.

8. MATTERS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD, CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

A. Discussion of April's Open House Outline & Expectations of Board Members as Hosts

- This will be an exciting opportunity for the EAB to take ownership over carrying the Climate Commitment discussion into the community, starting with communicating it to other boards.
- **B. KenCairn** shared a draft outline/agenda and survey he would like to have completed by all participants. The board decided sending the survey electronically to attendees prior to the meeting with enough time to compile results and include findings as part of the meeting would be ideal.
- The board discussed the need for outside facilitation but determined that individual EAB members acting as "mini-facilitators" would be most beneficial to achieving the meeting goals in a short period of time. And an agreement about messaging, desired outcomes and a list of questions should be clear from the beginning.
- It was reiterated that the purpose of the meeting is to obtain perspective from the other boards, not impose the EAB's perspective. And that encouraging engagement both through the boards and with the community in general is one of the greatest shared goals.
- Sharing the vision and reality with the boards is another of the larger goals of meeting jointly. This will be accomplished by framing the objectives such that everyone walks out with and idea of what's happening, where we are now, how far we have to go and the magnitude of its importance.
- The board will meet for a working session prior to the next regular meeting to prepare, plan and strategize meeting logistics and structure. They discussed the draft outline and gave feedback on structure and content for both sections of the meeting.
- The suggestion arose that homework be assigned at the working session for each board member to call the other board chairs after reviewing their council letters to briefly discuss the meeting objectives.

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- The board agrees that desired outcomes are action oriented. And that several of the boards involved being quasi-judicial, decision making bodies might have more influence in making things happen.
- The following points were identified as crucial to the success of the meeting:
  - Establish the assumptions to work from ahead of time.
  - Incorporate the Theory of Change strategic planning model – one organization can't do everything alone. Figure out how to synergistically incorporate the EAB's "puzzle piece" into the whole.
  - Establish the reality of the situation before asking what the other boards can do.
  - Address potential barriers with other boards seeing the vision, understanding where we are and where we need to go regardless of what is important to their own goals. Build consensus.
  - Set the stage and paint the picture of how significant the change has to be.
  - Emphasize that outcomes should be action oriented.

B. Farewell and thank you to Steve Morgan

- The board thanked **S. Morgan** and celebrated his five years of service to the EAB.

9. DEBRIEF MEETING/CALENDAR CHECK

- The Joint Board Open House is scheduled for April 27. The EAB will meet to discuss the agenda and facilitation strategy before the regular April 6 meeting. **S. Briggs** will check calendars and send a meeting request.
- The April meeting will be held as usual and will introduce the newest board member. Valerie Matheson and Elyse Hottel will also be invited to attend as neither was available for questions about their memos at this meeting. And the board will put the final touches on the joint meeting plan.
- The May meeting will also be held as usual to discuss the February retreat and debrief after the open house.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Environmental Advisory Board adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Approved:

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Chair Date

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