



Meeting Minutes

Nederland Community Center
Community Center Conference Room

May 23, 2019, 7:15 P.M.

A. **CALL TO ORDER: 7:30pm**

B. **ROLL CALL:**

1. **Board Members Present:** Alan Apt, Melody Baumhover, Kelly Grebe, Jennifer Morse, Eryka Thorley, Camille Thorson (call-in).
2. **Community Members Present:** Hunter Wright (Eldora MR), Byron Komineck (Jack's Solar Garden), Chris Pelletier (Ned Public Works), Reid Barcus, Alvin Mites, Kathleen Chippi
3. **Board Updates**
 - 3.1. Melody - Melody will email the workdays again for the greenhouse. We are updating the labor schedule and want to do extra fundraising.
 - 3.2. Jen M - Solar Rebate: One contract is signed eight more are in the pipeline. There may be homes in the pipeline that don't work for solar. There is \$600 left for advertisement but we may not need it. Jen will see if we can use that money to give one more rebate if we don't need it for ads, or we could use it for other SAB ads or solar campaigns. The grant generally has been successful, and partnering with energy smart has been very helpful. Jen is still looking for sustainability books suggestions to send to the library.
 - 3.3. Kelly - Class with Jeanine on eco-psychology for SAB and town staff tentatively in July. Also will schedule four hours with Amy ransom for permaculture training for public works staff.

- 3.4. Camille - The market went well, we had a good midseason customer turnout at the market. June is Colorado pollinator month and the market theme is “Bee aware.” We are looking for non-profits to do pollinator information. Kelly suggested garden in a box. Sierra club pollinator plant exchange is another opportunity. the county and CU is attending. Byron suggested people for pollinators action network (PPAN). There is a volunteer sign-up for the market that was emailed to SAB. Melody reports that the finances are on track - over \$6000 in sales (This was more than May 2018), and the market is very close to 50-50 on produce and art by \$amount of sales.
- 3.5. Eryka - she did a home energy squad visit. They said they typically replace 40 bulbs and can do weatherstripping and low flow fixtures. They also offer a more expensive home audit. The \$50 visit is very beneficial for homeowners and renters. You have to sign up with Xcel and energy smart. They will inspect your house and give minimal advice towards water heaters thermostats etc. with the lower-cost visit. Jan Rosa (sierra club) met with Eryka and members of Gold Hill, who is thirsty for information on how to help or partner with the Nederland SAB. We could possibly share the capstone group work with them and this solar garden info. Gold Hill is in unincorporated boulder county, and they have their own newly-created board for sustainability, with assistance from the county.
- 3.6. Alan - The BOT has added the sustainability coordinator position to their meeting agenda. SAB has some example positions compiled. Jen asked how the BOT felt about the position, it seemed like there was general support but still unsure on how to balance town staff turnover with the capabilities of taking on this position. The goal of this position is to assist the Town Staff and lighten the load. We will put together a Google Doc to create a position description. Eryka says we have discussed this multiple times that we need to make sure to get other parties on board by solving the stumbling blocks we’ve had before. Kelly says the right person will relieve the workload, We need to make paid positions wherever possible. All agreed to Kelly’s sentiment. Alan says that the volunteers are overworked. Eryka says the mountain communities would be open to a shared position if we opened up a shared goal. Melody said a possible idea for this position is having an ecosystem assessment done. Jen says the caveat is how long we have to pull this all together (July-ish).

4. **Public Comment, Non-Agenda Items**

- 4.1. Reid Barcus - invited by Eryka to the meeting. He would love to join SAB and promote energy storage as batteries are the current missing link. We informed him SAB is currently working on solar, the community greenhouse, and gathering volunteers. Alan mentioned we are looking for somebody to volunteer to work with SEI.
- 4.2. Hunter - she has been the sustainability manager at Eldora for the last two years, she is here to give an update on their progress. She has been a partner in the PIE collaboration.
- 4.3. Alvin - Alvin has been a part of many nonprofit projects, he was the CCO of solar gardens Inc., has been on the board for Ned compost for many years. He may have interest in joining the board.
- 4.4. Byron - for the past couple years he was doing part-time international work in Africa. Currently he is focusing on getting the family farm of 24 acres up and running, with 5 acres being Jack's solar garden.

C. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Eldora Sustainability - Hunter**

- 1.1. The resort is currently doing audits, process efficiency program. They have installed meters on lights and snowmaking machines. "Graph it" compiles the information. Buildings will get meters next. Eldora doesn't have the data for these meters yet. Powdr is installing permanent monitors for future energy tracking. They hope to have televisions that show the data to the public and guess. The powdr action plan is also a total greenhouse gas plan. Scope one is to look at multiple types of fuel for stationary and mobile uses. Scope two in April will look at the sanitation water, and snow making, and its effect on Lake Eldora. The resort signed up for renewable connect and asked for 100%. They received 22.5% solar energy, they need 77.5% more renewable energy to meet their 100% goal. Xcel could not commit that the next round of renewable connect would have capacity for all the ski resorts, but Eldora will attempt to sign up for as much as possible. Xcel sent out surveys on how much people would commit to purchasing if they did another round and all the ski resorts are trying to get the others on board. The ignite building hopefully will break ground in August. It won't be LEED certified, but will be in compliance with green construction code. They are hoping to get EV stations at the resort. \$200,000 is allocated towards the transition to electric shuttles, they can't buy

a brand new one as that would be \$750,000. Read suggested looking at battery leasing options. Eldora is researching bus conversion options for the money they have, and getting suggestions from other ski resorts and businesses. Eryka mentioned that a law just passed that Xcel can get returns for installing EV stations, possibly this will help Eldora? Kelly asked about engine idling. Eldora wants to make a policy for no idling but will need to have warming tents or something to keep cars from being idled. Eldora also wants to make sure their employees stop idling engines before having to ask guests to do so. Eldora is hosting a mountain cleanup day on national cleanup day September 6, there will be prizes, food trucks, pass pickups, rentals, other vendors, nonprofits, and more. Eryka appreciates to see Hunter at our meetings and would like to continue to have a more open dialogue with Eldora Mountain resort. Hunter may be interested in joining SAB. SAB will possibly have three open seats by the end of summer.

2. **Jack's Solar Garden**

2.1. Byron has taken over grandpa Jack's farm: Jack sold all his other farms and moved to Boulder to grow hay and alfalfa. The farm is no longer viable since the price of hay has gone down, so this solar garden was an appealing option to continue operations at the farm. They started working on this project in December 2018. He is working with experts and students on how to grow plants and pollinators under the solar panels. He has dedicated 3 acres of the 5 acre garden to research, and the other 2 acres will hopefully be a CSA. They are installing a 1.2 MW system, 380 W single axis tracking, which offer 25% more energy than stationary panels. Each panel will produce 775 kWh per year for a total of 2.5 GW/year. The research is to study different crops, different heights of panels, and look at the effects of the solar panels over time when growing underneath them. There is a 20 foot thicket of dense pollinators on the perimeter of the solar garden that will be used as natural fencing. There is 11 feet of clear sky between panel rows to fit tractors through. He also plans to work with local schools. Byron wants to have resident artists in the future, he has commissioned some work work already, for the solar garden. An Indiegogo campaign was started, they will use the raised money for construction and to donate power to a local nonprofit. The garden can sell to anyone in the county on the Xcel grid and they have 5, 10, and 20 year terms. Operation and maintenance of the garden will all be done by Jack's, and Xcel will calculate the bills. Xcel wants to increase prices by 6% which will eliminate any energy cost-savings. Eryka mentioned the solar

panel renovation act and Byron responded that the Jack's project is too old to qualify but they plan to petition the PUC. Jen asked what the price would be for this solar garden subscription. Byron said that they may have to raise their prices slightly, that the subscription is not really a cost saving, but could be more cost-effective since it is investing in a CSA and plant studies. The minimum investment to sign up is \$1500 which is three panels. 2% of the energy produced will be donated to low income housing. Jen mentioned that while this may not produce provide cost savings it is cheaper than wind source. Byron will host farm tours the next one is June 8 at 2 PM email him if interested.

2.2. Byron will attend NFM May 26

2.3. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ca7rmWR_9atIkri9VVI0AYfvGzDu7PJzFdLPtmL5Ky0

3. **Zero Waste Resolution/Ordinances**

3.1. https://docs.google.com/file/d/1_ZHHwCkzgi5kJwuOnFPXz-BNjtdLzUzD/edit?usp=doclist_api&filetype=microsoftword

3.2. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HwBirEnTQn4zU-ShEuqfXAkZazXcdyBA/view?usp=drivesdk>

3.3. https://docs.google.com/file/d/12xZzls0FQfTU7dipoOdDtID_jzhRuDu6/edit?usp=doclist_api&filetype=microsoftword

3.4. https://docs.google.com/file/d/1tkoVZfDuGUjYbUpUF52RCp3q_LXcTqXN/edit?usp=doclist_api&filetype=microsoftword

3.5. https://docs.google.com/file/d/1Q4ip8xGYrpHj_LXTBxulNvqomP05cE4I/edit?usp=doclist_api&filetype=microsoftword

3.6. Most events in town are currently zero waste. Alvin has experience as the NedFest Zero Waste volunteer. The issue with our zero waste policy is that we need to be able to enforce the ordinances.

3.7. Alvin uses mobiles made out of trash to get people to dispose of waste properly and effectively (eye-level info is important). A big piece of this is education on how to facilitate zero waste events.

3.8. The county offers a zero Waste Grant in the fall. Alvin said it would help to have a stash of compostable products for out-of-town vendors Melody said that SAB has wanted to do this for quite some time.

- 3.9. Chris mentioned there are several additions to the ordinance and adding the zero waste checklist to the town process is important. He also hopes for a higher deposit if the town staff analyzes that the current deposit has not been enough funds to clean up after events.
- 3.10. Melody mentioned that maybe events with a good track record can get a percentage off of their deposit since they have a proven commitment to zero waste practices. This would be a documented diversion rate. Eryka said that maybe we ask them to get a 50% diversion rate to get their deposit back. It might be easy to see when track how much is being diverted by attending the event.
- 3.11. Reid asked about charging a fee instead that would be reduced upon compliance. Eryka said she'd rather incentivize. Kathleen and Alvin mentioned that a fee would be burdensome. Kathleen commented that SAB needs to spend time to outreach to festivals and events about zero waste.
- 3.12. SAB needs to determine What are the barriers? What are our guidelines?
- 3.13. Reid mentioned if they follow the guidelines, do they get an incentive? SAB again suggested a lower deposit after proof of compliance.
- 3.14. Kathleen asked which festivals we had consulted with. SAB has reached out to NedFest, the farmers market, as well as the High Peaks art fair. Kathleen also asked where our \$5000 and \$10,000 numbers came from. Melody mentioned that we did not get the numbers from a specific place, just used these as a starting point for the conversation. Eryka mentioned that we used a dollar per head as our guideline to start looking at if these numbers are feasible. SAB also considered the current fees, deposits, and costs that Town incurs during and after events to come up with these figures. The SAB board agrees we cannot appropriately determine new fee schedules without other outside input and will postpone this part of the discussion with the BOT.
- 3.15. Melody mentioned that we are not creating a new ordinance we are in for staying existing resolutions of the town and that most festivals in Nederland are already zero waste. If SAB can get an incentive for compliant festivals, many events would actually have lower costs in 2020 and beyond as they have demonstrated the 50% or more diversion we are looking for. To the Town's knowledge, Frozen Dead Guy Days is the only special event not in compliance, and is the only event currently that hosts over 5,000 people. We plan to outreach to Amanda, and Alvin suggested he contact her to be the Zero Waste activist for FDGD as he does for NedFest.

3.16. Kathleen said an incentive sounds friendly, but this proposal does not sound friendly - it is too much of a burden. Kelly asked what about the cost burden on the new festivals of this proposed move? Chris P countered and asked how much should we concede to large events and how much should we push our zero waste goals? Jen recommended deleting the \$10,000 fee schedule level. The SAB discussed taking all the information to the BOT so that they could decide how fast to move on each piece of the changes.

3.17. It's possible we will be on the June 4 BOT agenda with this proposal, Jen and Erica will present. Chris will request that our two items are first on the agenda and any changes to these documents Chris needs by Wednesday.

4. **PIE workshop - June 12 3pm-5pm.**

4.1. Make sure to fill out the survey that Becca sent around.

5. **Sustainability Coordinator**

5.1. Use the positions we have in the drive as a template. Add to the shared Google doc. We should get an official statement from Lyons. Get the priorities and challenges to town staff from Karen. Could they commute or be in town? Eryka worried about getting approval and buy-in and working together with all. SAB members edit this document by Sunday.

6. **REC discussion**

6.1. Tabled to June

D. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Motion to extend meeting by Melody Baumhover, seconded by Eryka Thorley. All in Favor.
2. Motion to Approve meeting minutes Jan- Mar 2019 by Melody Baumhover, seconded by Eryka Thorley, all in Favor.
3. Motion to recommend that the BOT Adopt Zero Waste Event Requirements, and make edits to Article IV 6-71 and 6-72 to include Zero Waste Requirements. The SAB recommends that any deposit fees not refunded go towards reimbursing the Town for Damage or to be invested into sustainability goals. The SAB recommends to outreach to current special events to determine appropriate deposit changes to the fee schedule based upon number of attendees in order to incentivize maximum waste diversion and meet Town goals. Eryka Thorley motion, seconded Kelly Grebe, all in Favor.

4. Motion to recommend the BOT support the use of 2020 Sustainability Grant funds to hire a part-time Sustainability Coordinator. Motioned by Eryka, seconded by Kelly, all in favor.

E. **OTHER BUSINESS**

F. **ADJOURNMENT: 10:00pm**

Approved and adopted at the July 25, 2019 Regular SAB meeting.

Signed, Chair, Melody Baumhover

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melody", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.