

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Action: Appointment to Sustainability Commission

Meeting Date: October 10, 2011
Department: City Manager's Office
www.eugene-or.gov/sustainability

Agenda Item Number: 3
Staff Contact: Babe O'Sullivan
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5017

ISSUE STATEMENT

This item is the appointment by the City Council of a new member to the Sustainability Commission to serve the unexpired term of Lisa Arkin.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the council makes appointments to boards, committees and commissions. Chapter 2 of the Eugene Code addresses standing committees to the City Council and the appointment process. For most standing committees created in the Code, the council is the appointing authority. The normal recruitment period for boards, committees and commissions begins in January unless a resignation occurs mid-term. The Sustainability Commission has four positions that are filled in this manner, one of which had been filled by Lisa Arkin.

Due to Ms. Arkin's resignation, one vacancy has occurred on the Sustainability Commission. Ms. Arkin's term is set to expire on June 30, 2013, and her replacement will assume the remaining part of this term. Applicants were drawn from a pool that had been created during the normal recruitment process early in 2011. Three applicants completed interviews with the City Council.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

The Eugene Sustainability Commission is a 13-member citizen body that acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council and the City Manager to create or enhance sustainable practices within the community. The Sustainability Commission was created by City Ordinance No. 20379 in March 2007.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

The City Council may:

1. Appoint the candidate.
2. Appoint another candidate after reviewing all of the applications.
3. Choose no candidate at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager has no recommendation on this item; the appointments are made by the City Council.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to appoint Stacy Vynne to Position 2 on the Sustainability Commission, an unexpired term ending on June 30, 2013.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Interested Applicant Details
- B. Vote Ballot

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Babe O’Sullivan
Telephone: 541-682-5017
Staff e-Mail: babe.osullivan@ci.eugene.or.us



Interested Applicants

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Sustainability Commission

Name **Drew . Johnson** Evening Phone **541 685-1584** Day Phone **541 915-5228**
Address **3065 Lincoln Street** Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **12 years**
Eugene OR 97405 Ward **2** Neighborhood **Crest Drive Citizens**
Occupation **Engineer/Mediator/Consultant** Employer **Self-employed**
Business Address **3065 Lincoln Street** Fax **541 685-1584** E-Mail **drewjohnson65@comcast.net**
Eugene OR 97405 How did you learn of this vacancy? **Word of Mouth**

Optional Information

Gender **M** Age **36-45** Ethnicity **White/European American**

Additional Languages spoken

Education / Training

I hold a bachelor's degree (BS) in Civil Engineering from the University of Utah, and law (JD) and master's (MS Conflict and Dispute Resolution) degrees from the University of Oregon.

Community Service / Volunteer

LRAPA Board of Directors since May of 2005. Lane County Courts and Community Mediation Service (volunteer mediator) since August of 2009. WELC (legal intern/field burning campaign volunteer) 2007. Kidsports (coach) between 2004 and 2007.

Job Experience

Environmental Engineer: air quality, hazardous waste, water pollution control, and environmental program management and performance auditing. (1994-2009). Mediator/Consultant: mediation and organizational development. (2006-Present).

Personal Experience

I have specialized training and personal experience related to mediation, collaboration, and environmental program management and oversight through my work as an environmental engineer and consultant.



Interested Applicants

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Personal Interest

I believe that effective democracy and efficient delivery of government services requires informed and engaged citizen participation, and that informed public participation requires transparent and accountable government. From this perspective, I am personally interested in, and support: Increased opportunities for effective public participation by expanding the use of collaboration, facilitation, or "enhanced" public participation processes; and, Increased government transparency and accountability through performance management tools and techniques - i.e., improved performance measurement, increased outcome reporting, and appropriate use of technology to improve access to public information.

Contribution

By continuing to serve on the LRAPA Board of Directors, I hope to contribute to continued improvement of board relationships and board effectiveness; I hope to contribute to increasing public awareness about LRAPA and how it can support sustainable quality of life in Lane County; and, I hope to contribute to a collaborative effort to move LRAPA toward greater transparency and public accountability to increase and broaden public support for the Agency.

1 What do you consider to be the most important sustainability issues facing Eugene?

Transportation, Land Use, and Energy planning and policy are all very important sustainability issues facing Eugene, however, these issues should be considered in conjunction with economic development efforts. In addition, in the absence of bold national and international efforts to curtail greenhouse gas emissions to head-off an impending climate crisis, I believe Eugene should start taking measures now to plan, prepare, and "adapt" for the likely impacts of global climate change on Eugene and the region.

2 Briefly outline your understanding of what a sustainable city would be like.

A sustainable city is one where people live close to where they work, and where EVERYONE has the opportunity to work to support themselves and their families. In a sustainable city, air and water are clean and safe for EVERYONE, food is grown locally without reliance on chemicals, and energy comes from renewable sources. In a sustainable city, EVERYONE has a safe place to sleep, access to healthy lifestyle choices and healthcare, and EVERYONE is given the necessary medical treatments. In a sustainable city, justice is fair, mediation is commonplace, and the police earn and receive the respect they deserve.



Interested Applicants

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Sustainability Commission

Name	Roll F. Josh	Evening Phone	406-671-5069	Day Phone	541-682-2454
Address	1452 W. 11th Eugene OR 97402	Do You Live within the City Limits?	Y	If so how long?	8 months
Occupation	Transportation and Land Use planner	Ward	1	Neighborhood	Jefferson Westside Neighbors
Business Address	859 Willamette St. Suite 500 Eugene OR 97401	Employer	Lane Council of Governments		
Optional Information		Fax	5416824099	E-Mail	jroll@lcog.org
Gender	M	Age	26-35	Ethnicity	Choose not to respond
Additional Languages spoken	English				
Education / Training	Bachelor's from Western Oregon University and Masters of Science in Urban Studies from Portland State University. Certificate in Transportation. Master's degree work on connections between transportation, land use and greenhouse gas emissions.				
Community Service / Volunteer	President WOU Rugby 2002-2005. Vice President Portland Rugby 2007-2009. President WOU Rugby Alumni Foundation. Loaves and Fishes kitchen volunteer.				
Job Experience	Oregon Department of Transportation (2007-2008). Research assistant at PSU's Transportation Research Lab (2008-2009). Co-authored. a chapter in Brews to Bikes. Currently employed at Lane Council of Governments as a transportation and land use planner				
Personal Experience	Personal Experience				



Interested Applicants

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Personal Interest

Members of a healthy and functioning democracy need to take part in their government at all levels. A position on the Eugene Sustainability Commission would allow me the opportunity of being involved in the local policies and actions taken to make our community increasingly sustainable. The City of Eugene and its partners have done a considerable amount of useful work in this area and a spot on the sustainability commission would facilitate relevant personal and professional development and learning. Each time I visit my parents in my hometown of Billings, Montana, I am reminded that not all people think the way Oregonians think when it comes to phenomenon like sustainability. Understanding the genesis and application of Oregon's ideas and practices would better prepare me to unfold similar ideas when I return to Montana in the long term.

Contribution

It's necessary to apply reasoned judgment when making decisions from available information. I would bring technical knowledge relevant to the systems involved in sustainability as well as critical thinking needed to weigh options and consider the information for helping to make informed assessments. I have also demonstrated, through my work with the Portland Rugby Club (among others), the ability to organize large events by coordinating multiple groups of people and activities in order to succeed in a shared objective. Good analysis, like a fundraiser or profitable event, all require vision, dedicated effort, and considerable forethought, all components I would aim to bring to the Sustainability Commission.



Interested Applicants

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1 What do you consider to be the most important sustainability issues facing Eugene?

An issue certainly in the top three most pressing issues involves the topic of the urban growth boundary. Accommodating future growth in residential dwellings and employment offers an opportunity for the city (and the region) to shape the future of land use and transportation in the region. Within my current understanding, a great number of complex issues exist that make the decision difficult. Expansion of the UGB with constraints on housing types in favor of more multi family may spur enough dense development in the newly created sections that cross down traffic increases to the point of unbearable congestion on some of Eugene's already busy roads. Not enough density in these new areas may spur low density development, using precious open space and city resources inefficiently. Not expanding the UGB sufficiently may force rents upward to the point of making housing less affordable to many of our low income neighbors while also making it more expensive for business to locate in the area. How will a UGB change impact peoples' housing choices, causing them to live in outlying communities like Veneta and Coburg, using single occupancy vehicles to commute 20 miles to work? What will the impact of Springfield's UGB decision be on the City of Eugene?

This issue is complicated and involves various stakeholders and interests. Thinking ahead about what goals we truly value will likely aid in informing the ultimate decision and not without intense current and further analysis of the probable outcomes from the multitudes of possible scenarios. I do not have an answer but would treasure an opportunity to be closer to the analysis.

2 Briefly outline your understanding of what a sustainable city would be like.

Since utopias never seem to materialize I think it's better to imagine a city where citizens have options and choices in the areas of their lives relevant to sustainability. No responsible government can force its people to do anything against their will, but by providing useful choices individuals can be relied on to make their own decisions, likely sustainable choices if given the option and correct price signals. By offering services like recycling and transit, maintaining bike paths and facilitating access to locally produced goods and food, can increase the livability of a community and create a demand for living in the area. This type of demand would hopefully invite business investment and living wage, sustainable jobs while also maintaining housing stock for all levels of household incomes.



Interested Applicants

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Sustainability Commission

Name	Anthony R. McParland	Evening Phone	5413377691	Day Phone	5413377691
Address	2683 Alder Street Eugene OR 97405	Do You Live within the City Limits?	Y	If so how long?	2 years
Occupation	Research Assistant/Student	Ward	3	Neighborhood	Amazon Neighbors
Business Address	1800 Millrace Drive Eugene OR 97403	Employer	Health Policy Research Northwest/UO		
Optional Information		Fax	5419845691	E-Mail	mcparlan@uoregon.edu, amcparland@hprnw.org
Gender	M	Age	19-25	Ethnicity	White/European American
Additional Languages spoken					
Education / Training	University of Oregon: Bachelors of Science Candidate and Bachelors of Arts Candidate in Planning, Public Policy, and Management; Economics; Math				
Community Service / Volunteer	Service Learning Project Jamaica:Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development, Student Vote Coalition, Kitzhaber/Defazio Campaign, League of Women Voters Las Vegas:Policy Committee, Southern Nevada Student Water Advisory Committee				
Job Experience	Health Policy Research Northwest:Research Assistant, Kurth Lampe:Junior Consultant, The Raise Your Voice Project (funded by the Help America Vote Act):Project Coordinator/Grant Writer, The Office Senator Harry Reid:Intern				
Personal Experience	I study sustainable/efficient economic practices regarding cooperative development and international fair trade. At Health Policy Research Northwest, I contribute to the organization's aim to produce and support evidenced-based research and policies.				
Disability	N	Description			



Interested Applicants

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Personal Interest

My interest sustainability permeate into my personal life. I am an avid bicyclist and a frequent user of public transportation. I allocate a majority of my free time towards maintaining a healthy life style; I lift weights, run, and enjoy cooking nutritious and delicious foods. My partner and I often make use of local walking paths and dog parks. If appointed to serve on the Sustainability Commission, I would work to ensure that more of such infrastructure is made available so that more citizens are provided the same healthy choices that I choose from.

Contribution

I am employed as public health researcher by a company which aims to produce and disseminate evidenced-based research and policy. Public health, especially as it relates to social and physical infrastructure, cannot be excluded from a comprehensive sustainable development initiative. Preventative health practices, healthy food availability and liveable neighborhoods are just several areas where public health and sustainability overlap. If appointed, I would bring my knowledge of public health to the Sustainability Commission, where I would emphasize the need to and the benefit of supporting evidenced-based sustainability and public health polices.

1 What do you consider to be the most important sustainability issues facing Eugene?

Smart growth and public transportation are possibly the most important sustainability issues that Eugene currently faces. That said, both are invariably inter-connected with a multitude of other issues, such as access to food and health infrastructure. To develop sustainably, we cannot frame any issue as an isolated problem; we must understand that each area is one part of an interconnected system that must be addressed holistically rather than linearly.

2 Briefly outline your understanding of what a sustainable city would be like.

Taking from the above response, optimal sustainability can only be achieved when each facet of a system is sub-optimized; all system facets are sub-optimized only when the entire system is optimized. Away from the jargon, just as the height of each pillar of sustainability depends on the height of the other two, each facet of city, whether it is transportation, health, parks and recreation or business, will function sustainably only when the city wherein they exist functions sustainably. Therefore, a sustainable city is a system.



Interested Applicants

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Sustainability Commission

Name	Stacy J. Vynne	Evening Phone	4259419132	Day Phone	4259419132
Address	1745 E. 23rd Ave Eugene OR 97403	Do You Live within the City Limits?	Y	If so how long?	4.5 years
Occupation	Program Director	Ward	3	Neighborhood	Fairmont Neighbors
Business Address	504 Oak Street Suite E Eugene OR 97405	Employer	The Resource Innovation Group		
Optional Information		Fax	E-Mail	stacy@trig-cli.org	
Gender	F	Age	26-35	Ethnicity	White/European American
Additional Languages spoken					
Education / Training	University of Oregon, MS Environmental Studies and Certificate Nonprofit Management (2008); Bowdoin College, BS Biology and Environmental Studies (2002); School for International Training- Kalahari Ecology and Conservation (2001)				
Community Service / Volunteer	Bowdoin College Prospective Student Interviewer (2008-present); Green Jobs High School Mentor (2003-2006); Mokolodi Reserve Predator Adoption Program Coordinator (2001); Endangered Species Act Researcher (2000)				
Job Experience	Climate Adaptation and Preparedness Program Director (The Resource Innovation Group & Climate Leadership Initiative); Outcomes Monitoring Program Manager (Conservation International); Sustainability Assistant (Bowdoin College)				
Personal Experience	Emissions reduction and climate adaptation, local/sustainable food movements, green buildings, natural resource and wildlife conservation, city and county climate planning, and sustainable policy development.				



Interested Applicants

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Personal Interest

I am an avid runner, cyclist, hiker, skier and gardener. I live in Eugene because of the opportunity to easily access trails, local/organic food, and public transportation. However, I also want to see the city be able to develop further, provide jobs and housing to accommodate a growing population, and be more of a leader in climate change mitigation and adaptation. While Eugene has taken great strides to become a more sustainable community, there are additional opportunities to pursue. Working with public officials over the past few years has increased my interest in local politics. I am eager to increase my civic engagement and (ideally) contribute to local decision making.

Contribution

While I have extensive knowledge (and interest) working on a number of sustainability issues, my experience working across multiple sectors means that I evaluate the costs and benefits of any recommendation or decision that is made, attempting to understand what implications it may have on the economy, environment, human health, etc. In particular, I am interested in evaluating how sustainability recommendations impact public health. I would provide professional knowledge from working on mitigation (including participation in the city's Climate and Energy Action Plan) as well as climate adaptation (or resilience building) strategies. I work throughout the state and in other regions of the country, and could provide case studies or best practices from other communities. Again, I am eager to increase my civic engagement, learn more about local decision making, and hopefully contribute to building a more sustainable city.



Interested Applicants

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1 What do you consider to be the most important sustainability issues facing Eugene?

Eugene is going to continue to grow. It's an amazing place to live, work and play, and it will need to maintain these key qualities while also accommodating population growth. The city will need to provide additional housing, create jobs and attract businesses, maintain natural areas, improve resiliency to natural hazards and climate change impacts, and expand public transportation- all of which can challenge sustainability, public health, and quality of life. Being able to balance population and development needs with solutions that result in minimal impact may provide challenges for our decision makers and community as a whole.

2 Briefly outline your understanding of what a sustainable city would be like.

My vision of a sustainable city is one that provides its citizens with equal access to public transportation, natural areas, affordable low-impact housing, local/organic food, an education system that prepares them to be stewards of the planet, health care, and employment in "green" jobs. Quality of life is high, and therefore the citizens are eager to engage with and care for their community. The community subsists with minimal additional resources (e.g. cradle-to-cradle), strives to be zero waste and carbon neutral, and sets high sustainability standards for policy making, development, or new businesses. It is a city that can exist with minimal impact on the planet or the health of the people.

**SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION BALLOT
FALL 2011
One At-Large Position Vacancy**

Please indicate the person you would like to appoint. Any candidate receiving five or more votes to appoint will be placed in nomination for formal appointment at the October 10, 2011, City Council meeting.

*** Indicates Applicant Interviewed**

Last Name	First Name	Appoint
Abbott	Stephen	
Arthur	Joshua	
Gross	Joanne	
Hawley	John	
Howard	Nathan	
Johnson *	Drew	AO
Josh	Roll	
McParland *	Anthony	BT
Miksis	Mark	
Oliver	Hannah	
Reid	Julie	
Thompson	Sam	
Vynne *	Stacy	AZ GP CP MC GB