



Agenda
Advisory Committee for Environmental Sustainability (ACES)
August 14, 2025
5:30 PM
Superior Community Center
1500 Coalton Road

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Preliminary Matters
 - Roll Call
Present: Jim Zarske, Michelle Gazarik, Miles Hoffman, John Heckman, Lisa Barnes, Nikki Hewett, Patrick Payne
Absent: none
Staff present: Alexis Bullen
Town Council Liaison present: Jenn Kaaoush
 - Approval of Agenda: Michelle Gazarik moved to approve the agenda as published; John Heckman seconded; Board approved unanimously.
 - Public Comment (limit 5 minutes/person): no one present.
3. Updates
 - Introduction of new ACES member Patrick Payne to ACES members.
 - Town Council Liaison: Jenn Kaaoush
 - Interviewed for Regional Air Quality Council opening; will let us know how it goes. The pool remodeling will have the foundation for future new technology for heating when it proves viable. The building is all-electric with heat pumps. They are keeping sustainable technologies and practices in mind throughout the process.
 - Town Staff
 - Alexis says next year's budget is on its way to the town Council. The decarbonization plan is still in the capital budget; DRCOG is not a grant source for that type of plan. That type of plan will help weigh facility and budget costs and benefits. There is \$100K included for nonessential turf removal goal, using GIS for strategic operations and evaluations. Sustainability Grant Match helps us support our projects, including the BOCO Sustainability Grant and our \$6500 budgeted match. October is the public meeting for budget. There will be an update after the work sessions on what is included in the 2026 budget.
 - We aren't doing EcotoberFest because it's a huge staff lift, but we are doing Halloween Costume Collection for kids, adults and pets. Collection will be at the Superior Community Center; distribution will be at the Louisville Library.
 - BOCO is doing their solar program until Sept 3 before federal tax credit ceases.
 - DRCOG Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, EPA funds, specifically for building code POLICY (not implementation). Talking to Safe Built about what



that could look like. CO Energy Office also received a portion of this EPA grant that we are looking into.

- Compost tour of Republic is being scheduled, asking for dates from Republic.

4. Discussion Items

- Education-based activity at ACES tables.
- Background: We typically have a booth and table with a game and sustainability-minded giveaways using our spinning wheel. The topic on the spinning wheel has historically been geared towards zero waste.
- Objective: Jim wants to introduce kids to ALL facets of sustainability (climate, energy conservation, clean air, clean water, zero waste, transportation, nature & regenerative systems). His wife Mindy, who leads the CU freshman engineering design projects, says she can have the engineering students develop a project to educate the public on the other pillars of sustainability. Engineering students would come to an ACES meeting to gather data and then produce a project that would be showcased in November Expo. The Town would then own the project, hardware and any software developed.
- ACES said to go ahead with exploring this option to present at a future meeting.
- Upcoming Events (Sept 6 Chili Fest, Sept 10 Summer Market & Oct 18 Fall Fest)
 - Every Scrap Matters Experience is a data-driven, behavior change campaign that our sustainability department and composting consultants have started. We reviewed the 4-page implementation toolkit. Alexis found a compost magician who will help spread the message in a creative fashion during Sept 10 Summer Market and/or Oct 18 Fall Fest. We are using our BOCO Sustainability Grant to fund this work. We have given away most of our compost caddies.
 - Chili Fest: We are going to skip tabling due to limited volunteer time. Colin Folsom is doing waste contract and he is organizing the ZW goalies. Miles has idea for BYOCS: Bring Your Own Crazy Spoons and offer a prize drawing for the best examples. Another ZW solution of “No Utensils Needed” is to use tortilla chips (GF) for scooping chili samples. ACES has lots of ideas and should keep them in mind when they next meet with events staff for next year.
 - Staff (Alexis and Austin) will go to Sept 10 Summer Market and Oct 18 Fall Fest. Miles can attend both; Michelle can attend Sept 10. Lisa can come on Oct 18. Other ACES members will let Alexis know of their availability and are welcome to stop by our table and assist at these events.
- General Events Discussion (Chair Jim Zarske had to leave; Nikki Hewitt led the rest of the meeting as Vice Chair)
 - ACES messaging
 1. Background: Last year we had working groups (WG) who met separately as another public meeting as part of ACES. One of the WG



was Outreach & Education (O&E). This year, in an effort to reduce the number of meetings, we eliminated the WG and instead added a 30-min monthly meeting just prior to the monthly ACES meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to do any pre-work required for ANY project deemed important by ACES as an action item during regular meetings. Michelle requested that we bring back O&E as a monthly action item to set the educational messages for each planned tabling event, create the associated activity/game, and suggest give-aways that match the educational theme or desired behavior change. The board discussed and this and agreed that we will begin using the 30-min pre-meeting prior to monthly ACES meeting to work on this. All members of ACES and the public are invited to participate.

- Swag (compost caddies, other). Down to our last 40 compost caddies. Looking to do a raffle for fastest time on sorting game for \$50 gift card to a local restaurant. Alexis is asking for \$2500 from the remaining \$4850 in ACES current budget, leaving \$2350 remaining. Last autumn, ACES approved \$300 leaf bags, \$500 reusable gift wrap \$123 reusable batteries for Oct-Dec 2024 expenses. We can make similar recommended expenditures for 2025 in an upcoming ACES meeting.
- Lisa moved to spend \$2500 from ACES budget for additional compost caddies and gift card prizes, John Heckman seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- Digital sign that we purchased last year is in Alexis' office. Sarah Nick, who just stepped down from ACES, had been working on getting it up and running. Alexis will bring it to next meeting. Patrick volunteered to get it technically working; Nikki and Michelle volunteered to assist with content.
- Miles says our ACES blade flag needs the top portion replaced; it was missing during July 4th event.
- New ACES member orientation ideas
 - Alexis shared ACES Orientation with board in meeting notification
 - We discussed what we would like Alexis to cover with new ACES members that would help them be better informed and aware of existing documents and resources including those on our website.
 - Add to ACES Orientation: Beneficial Electrification Plan, Greenhouse Gas Inventory, dashboard overview
 - ACES suggestions for questions to consider adding or addressing:
 1. What is status of our current actions? (Create and add grid of SAP and past/current ACES Work Plans)
 2. Where do we invest our time and energy in the next few months? Years?



3. What are the material flows (drinking water, waste water systems, solid waste streams including trash, recycling, composting, dog wastes, yard debris, hazardous waste, reusables)
4. What are the energy flows? and human work flows? And how are they correlated to Sustainability Action Plan?
5. What is the cadence of what Sustainability and ACES do on a monthly basis?
6. Note: adding #3-5 to Action Items below to create a training version of this information.

- Miles would like to see explanation of bigger ecosystem with the other towns Louisville, Lafayette, Erie, Broomfield. Added action item to send invitation for the Front Range Sustainability groups quarterly meetings.

5. Adjourn

John Heckman moved to adjourn the meeting; Michelle Gazarik seconded; approved unanimously.

Action Items:

- 1) Alexis; Ask Communications staff to push the BOCO Solar Panel offer one more time before upcoming Sept deadline if it makes sense with deadlines.
- 2) Alexis: Send a calendar invite to ACES members for Sept 11 Pre-meeting to work on messaging for Outreach & Education. Michelle: Be project lead on this meeting for future Outreach & Education messaging.
- 3) Alexis: Ask Mikaela for assistance in replacing top portion of ACES' blade flag used during outdoor tabling events.
- 4) Alexis: Update Dropbox and invite ACES members to use it. Add folder "ACES Orientation" and subfolder "Monthly Staff Updates", which will be used to update new members with activities, strategies and accomplishments to date.
- 5) Michelle: share VOX AQI article and Resource Central's recent recorded webinar on Firewise landscaping
- 6) Miles: Share the Front Range Sustainability Groups Quarterly meeting invitation with ACES (done; next meeting is Sept 10, same as Summer Market)
- 7) All: Work on training guides for Orientation items #3-5 above to help new members on-board as smoothly and quickly as possible.