

CAC Minutes
For the meeting of April 21, 2016

CAC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Genny Klien, Bruce Hutchins, Hunter Causey, Mike Cowan, Josh Baile, John Stafford, Bethany Gravell, Paul Aldretti, Kristin Maharg,

CAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Loretta Pinetta

Guests:

Sarah Craig

Tim Flynn

Heather Bergman

Denver Water Staff: Katie Knoll, Heather Stauffer, Jeremy Ross

Opening Remarks, Public Comments, Agenda and Minutes

March minutes and April agenda were approved.

No comments from members of the public

Denver Water Update

Provided in written format to all members.

Operation Complex Redevelopment Presentation

Jeremy Ross gave the CAC an overview of Denver Water's new operations complex redevelopment plans. Jeremy discussed the redevelopment plan, phasing and scheduling. He also gave the CAC an overview of sustainability goals of the new campus and how Denver Water hopes the new campus will benefit the larger community.

Successful Collaboration Presentation

Heather Bergman talked to the CAC about her experience with successful collaboration techniques used in her work through the Peak Facilitation Group. Heather emphasized to the group that collaborative processes need to be tailored to the needs of the agency, the needs of the community, and other aspects of the specific situation. There is no right process, because context matters in every situation. There are a lot of ways to engage the public in the making of public policy. Heather provided the CAC with handouts of the IAP2 Spectrum which outline different approaches to public involvement. Heather suggested that during this process the CAC ask Denver Water what kinds of questions they want answered and what is on their to-do list. Then, the CAC can make a list of things they want to do. The lists are then compared and prioritized. Heather spoke about many examples of public engagement including: Perspective

panels, Map charrettes, world café style meetings, electronic polling, and online town halls. Mike Cowan commented that he thought the CAC should start by defining issues and decisions and prioritize them according to the matrix. Paul Aldretti commented that it would be helpful for the CAC to get a list of comments Denver Water receives in order to anticipate issues. Heather recommended that the CAC engage in a few exercises including: Taking 5 minutes to tell Denver Water why you signed up for this group and if you could talk about anything what would it be? She also recommended doing a newspaper headline exercise where participants write down a “newspaper headline” of what they would like to see Denver Water do.

CAC Business

The CAC continued to discuss methods of successful collaboration. The CAC would like to prioritize what they’re doing, and use the strategy of taking 10 minutes to jot down what you think is important, and then combine lists to see if there is some convergence.

The CAC would like to discuss meeting times, number of meetings, etc. Josh Baile made a comment that he believes it is very important to meet in person.

Kristin Maharg brought up a question about membership representation and if the CAC is representative to all Denver Water customers, or if the CAC is missing representation.

Mike Cowan commented that he believes the CAC should start with the prioritization of topics, evaluate the urgency and importance of those topics and make a commitment to them on the agenda and discuss it in (blank) months.

Bethany Gravell made a comment that in addition to defining what the CAC does, it would be a good idea to also define what the CAC does not do.

Katie Knoll brought up the idea of having a steering committee in addition to whatever structures the CAC decides on.

Kristin Maharg suggested that the CAC begin to collect a list of topics they are interested in discussing.

Bethany Gravell suggested that the CAC do the exercise described by Heather Bergman in which the CAC describes that they thought they would be doing as the CAC and what they would ideally like to be doing as the CAC. The CAC decided to begin the conversation this way and then maybe bring Heather Bergman back.