



MINUTES

Citizens Advisory Committee

In-Person and WebEx

April 13, 2022 | 11:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

| <u>Member of CAC</u> | <u>Present</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Richard Farias | ✓ | |
| Lawson Picasso | ✓ | |
| Diana Aguirre Martinez | ✓ | |
| Frank Gonzalez | ✓ | |
| Andy Castillo | ✓ | |
| Raquel Zapata | | ✓ |
| John Kelly | ✓ | |
| Tom Corser | ✓ | |
| Allie Watters | ✓ | |
| Adelita Cantu | | ✓ |
| Mary Dennis | ✓ | |
| Bill Day | ✓ | |
| Luisa Casso | | ✓ |
| MaryEllen Veliz | | ✓ |

Also Present were:

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Julie Cain | Melissa Carrillo Cox | Julia Carrillo Haynes | Justin Chamberlain |
| Velma Corona | Carla De La Chapa | Guillermo De Hoyos | Daniel Elias |
| Kathleen Garcia | Jesse Hernandez | ArDeanna Hicks | Andrew Higgins |
| Loretta Kerner | Adam Kiehne | Ann Kinnard | Rhonda Krisch |
| Christian Krueger | Cory Kuchinsky | Kelly Kuhle | Louis Labatt |
| Lisa Lopez | Rick Luna | Kari Meyer | Denae Meyers |
| Karma Nilsson | Yvonne Pelayo | Melissa Pena | Shanna Ramirez |
| David Rivela | Andrew Schorn | Prabha Somawardana | Melissa Sorola |
| Marie Stoner | Nancy Tabares | | |

CALL MEETING TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND SAFETY MESSAGE

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 a.m. by Chair Bill Day.

Invocation was made by Julia Carrillo Haynes.

Yvonne Pelayo provided a safety message related to driving and texting. Yvonne stated that this month is driving awareness month, there are three main types of distractions while driving: visual, manual and cognitive. Using a cell phone while driving will cause delays in the driver's reaction as much as having a blood alcohol consideration of .08%. Other distracting activities are eating, drinking, talking to passengers, reading and using a GPS navigation system. Avoid

distracting driving by only making emergency cell phone calls while driving if permitted by local and state laws. Have a hands-free phone and speed dial or voice activation for emergency phone calls. For texting or routine cell phone calls, pull off the road or move over to the shoulder.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the CAC meeting held on March 9, 2022, was deferred to next month's meeting.

STAFF UPDATE

Yvonne Pelayo informed the Committee that the next Rate Advisory Committee would be on April 21, from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. The next regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 25. On Tuesday, April 26, at 10 a.m. the Municipal Utilities Committee will meet, and the agenda will be solely focused on CPS Energy. The next CAC meeting will be held on May 11, and the Suburban Cities Summit is scheduled for Friday, May 20. For the latest information on the upcoming community events, please visit cpsenergy.com/events.

Yvonne also provided an update to the Committee on the CAC Survey, which was sent to the whole Committee at the end of March, and she reviewed some of the key findings. She stated that the types of questions the Committee is receiving from the public were primarily focused around power reliability, rate structure, and CPS Energy governance, and that staff will keep these on the radar for future discussion. Relative to topics the Committee wanted to learn more about, a future flex power bundle update, RAC progress and generation planning were the three main areas of interest. Lastly, she mentioned that feedback received regarding effectiveness was centered on two main themes: 1) allowing enough time for general discussion among committee 2) standard onboarding process. The feedback is being taken to heart and staff will work with the Committee to make sure these are addressed.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION PROGRAM UPDATE PART 2

Rick Luna, Director Technology & Product Innovation provided an update on the next steps in creating a new program for CPS Energy's Save for Tomorrow Energy Program or STEP, which will terminate on July 31, 2022. Luna stated that CPS Energy is seeking direction on key elements of the future Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program. Some crucial decisions points include determining the overarching goals and priorities, the overall budget, and the program length of time. The current program consists of weatherization, energy efficiency, demand response and traditional solar rebates. Luna also provided a list of potential new initiatives that could be considered part of the new program. The new program may include some of the current programs but is not required to. CPS Energy wants to be responsive to the needs of the community when building the new program. He then mentioned that the Demand Response program is the most cost-effective by reducing load during peak times, and Casa Verde and Weatherization are less cost-effective but have more impact on energy savings on homes, resulting in roughly \$400.00/yr. average savings for families. He went on to describe the average bill impact based on varying levels of spend. Luna emphasized the need for feedback from the Committee and specifically on how do we build a program that meets the community's needs? The round table provided an opportunity for the CAC members to request more information on the megawatt impact on residential and businesses that reflects the savings through programs and breakdown on demographics that showcase savings to ensure CPS Energy is targeting the right areas with the most need and most cost-effectiveness.

In general, the Committee was in support of continuing an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program, however which initiatives make up that program is yet to be determined. The Committee also suggested rebranding the program, improving marketing, and making sure the community is aware of what is being offered.

DISCUSSION: OPEN MEETINGS, AT-LARGE POSITION

Chair Day provided an update on the community's desire for the CAC to have open meetings. There was a lengthy discussion in which members wanted information and clarity on the relevance of the Committee to the public if the meetings aren't open, determining who the CAC really is and what is the CAC's purpose, including identifying goals and objectives of the CAC, and how the information received would be disseminated. Shanna Ramirez, CPS Energy Chief LEO & General Counsel, shared that the CAC is not required to hold public meetings, they can incorporate the public in any way the Committee determines to do so. Ramirez also noted that each member signed a confidentiality agreement, and some information would not be permissible for open discussion. Ramirez offered her assistance with the navigation would be available to assist with any questions members may have. Committee members offered various perspectives for opening meetings to the public and how that could potentially impact the Committee.

Chair Day stated they Committee would need to develop parameters for how to conduct executive session since they are not bound by the requirements outlined in the Texas Open Meetings Act. He also stated he would like to develop a formal proposal to present or at least discuss at the May 2022 meeting.

Chair Day spoke briefly about the At-Large positions that are open. He informed the Committee that there were over 40 applicants for the two open positions. He has asked the Executive Committee to review the applicants and narrow it down to five-to-six candidates to interview. Local Government Relations staff will be setting up interviews and all CAC members are invited to participate. Chair Day also mentioned that District 10 representative Allie Watters will be stepping down but has agreed to stay on until her replacement is named by the Council District.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE

Chair Bill Day asked each member to make announcements or comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.