

**Memo:**

To: To the ASFPM informal Climate Change Working Group members.

From: Bob Freitag

Date: January 24 2021

Subject: Notes of the January 22<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting

Here are notes transcribed from our January 22<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting.

Our next meeting will be at 9am PST, February 19<sup>th</sup> 2021. To join the meeting, [click here](#).

Those attending the January meeting include: ([Recording of the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting](#))

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This was the last climate working group meeting. This working group will become a standing Climate Taskforce.

The next meeting of the Taskforce will be from 9:00a to 9:30a, PST February 19<sup>th</sup>. This will be a shorter introduction meeting that begins our effort.

#### Discussion

The climate working group was thinking of initially creating a survey to identify and possibly prioritize climate issues. These issues would help focus subsequent meetings. The survey was to be sent to all committees to complete. Once survey results were tabulated, each ASFPM standing committee would be sent the results, and assigned a time to meet with the Climate Taskforce. It was thought that climate opportunities and concerns would gain definition and importance with the involvement of each committee. The Taskforce would offer recommendations when all committees had participated.

After considerable discussion this approach was amended. It was thought that a survey would be premature and that the committees needed time to discuss the role of changes to our climate jointly

and be allowed to muddle through a more creative processes. A survey may be more useful later in the process.

Therefore it was recommend that the Taskforce meet monthly as whole. The Taskforce would include those interested at-large and two designated ASFPM standing committee representatives. This representation could include co-chairs.

It was also suggested that members of the now replaced climate working group contact the PODs and Co-chairs to solicit representation. It was also suggested that the role of the taskforce be place on the agenda of the next co-chair call, and Board retreat. (See below for assignments).

The climate working group also agreed that the standing committees be give list of climate issue the working group thought important to kick off a discussion within the standing committees. (The list is included at the end of this Memo)

Accordingly, specific Climate Taskforce tasks would be to:

- Build a taskforce among at-large ASFPM members and from standing committees
- Begin with a short introductory meeting the 19<sup>th</sup> of February and a longer issue oriented meeting March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Suggest committees discuss climate issues thought importance by the working group before the February and March Taskforce meetings.
- Offer a deep dive into climate challenges that may strengthen the application of climate adaptation and climate mitigation within our standing committees
- Possibly propose policy
- Support our committee structure though dialog, research and making subject matter experts available to requesting committees.

Initial working Taskforce agenda:

- The clarification and prioritization of climate issues will drive February and March Taskforce meetings.
- Subsequent meetings will be issue driven
- Requested expertise will be made available to requesting committees.
- Priority climate issues will discussed at the ASFPM Annual Conference
- Climate recommendations may be available by the end of the calendar year.
- Clarified concerns may define subsequent Taskforce meeting agendas.

Assignments:

- POD leader involvement. Dave Carlton will speak directly to each of the POD leaders. Each POD support the selection of a member committee representative to the Climate Taskforce.
- Co-chair involvement. Jeanne Ruefer will request that role of the Taskforce be placed on the agenda for the coming Board retreat. (Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>)
- Co-chair call scheduled for Feb 16<sup>th</sup> April 20. Jeannie Ruefer will request co-chair participation.
- Annual Conference May 8 -13. Meg Galloway will request that the Taskforce be given a role at the Conference.

Climate issues of concern suggested by the Climate Working group.

*(NOTE: Climate Change parlance uses words that mean different things to floodplain managers. Climate “Mitigation” refers to carbon reduction/sequestering, not altering or re-directing the built environment to reduce hazards vulnerability as the phrase Hazards “Mitigation” is used in floodplain management. The reduction of vulnerability to climate impacts is often referred to as “adaptation”.)*

Hazards mitigation/adaptation approaches:

1. Retreat management (*e.g. restricting investment in new development; facilitating staged/managed relocation, acquisition of properties*)
2. Protection and fortification (*e.g. historic district, infrastructure... protection where facilities cannot be relocated*)
3. Accommodation/adaptation. Example would include elevation, floodproofing, infrastructure adaptation, river corridor management, restoration of damaged natural systems that directly impact / support the built environment, preservation of ecosystem services and natural functions. (*e.g. watershed cover, marshes/wetlands, sediment transport, barrier islands*)

Mapping:

4. Future conditions/scenarios (*e.g. hydrograph changes; urban development of open land areas within watersheds*)
5. Mapping of erosion, shoreline retreat, and channel migration

Insurance:

6. Individualized risk-based rating (*e.g. taking into account future conditions, incentivizing hazards mitigation approaches.*)
7. Community-wide insurance (*e.g. community based risk sharing*)

Climate Mitigation – Direct and indirect carbon sequestering / generation:

8. Carbon sequestering. (*e.g. promoting blue carbon, Green Infrastructure; protection/restoration of sensitive or damaged forest/wetlands*)
9. Reducing carbon production. (*e.g. Promotion of micro-grids, [decarbonize buildings and materials](#), promote lower carbon solutions with the context of disaster recovery*)

Additional concerns:

10. Climate change impacts in regards to community justice and fairness – Equity, gentrification, knowledge of risk (*e.g. assessing impact to vulnerable populations*)
11. Tools that can be used by Floodplain Managers (?):
  - a. Financial tools (*e.g. Carbon offsets, incentivizing bond ratings and other current financing mechanisms for resilient communities, tax increment financing*)
  - b. Regulatory tools (*e.g. Enhanced zoning, subdivision, building and stormwater management regulations*)

- c. Planning and zoning (*e.g. Land Use Planning and Capital Improvements programming, Transfer/ Purchase of Development Rights, directing new development to low hazard areas*)
  - d. Ecosystem services (*e.g. Incorporating Ecosystem services into Benefit / Cost analyses, promotion of nature-based solutions, and natural functions.*)
  - e. Public-private partnerships for resilient communities
12. What climate change element is not covered in the above list? Or what may need clarification?
13. What Issues is your Committee concerned with that would benefit from being discussed within the context of an inter-committee Taskforce on climate change?