

Climate Action Group — Annual Report from 2023

Bellingham Cohousing Condominium Association

BCCA Committee Annual Report for Year 2023

“Committee” may refer to a committee/team/task force/group.

- Each year the Board is required to present to BCCA owners a complete report of the operations and finances of BCCA.
- In order to do this, the Board needs your help in the form of an annual report from your group.
- Report for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.
- Your report is needed by **February 15, 2024** in order to be published in BCCA’s Annual Report.
- Complete Part 1 and Part in a Word format document. Save the document and please email to Board@bellcoho.com.

Names of persons completing report: Lesley & Jaco

Part 1

Name of Committee: **Climate Action Group**

List of Committee Members:

- The Board will use this list each year to appoint the members of each committee as required in our bylaws.
- This list will be used to update committee email lists and committee member lists on our member website.
- Please identify all members in the space below.

Jaco, Ed, Steve, Lesley and (occasionally) Sauvryn. The group met 8 times during 2023, guided by community interest as recorded at our last Community Retreat.

Who on your committee is authorized to approve expenses? N/A

Part 2 — Report

1. Describe three or more of your committee’s major accomplishments/activities in 2023.
 - **Expanding rooftop solar**
Jaco got two estimates (Western Solar and Ecotech) for rooftop solar on the north carport building (a logical candidate for solar). This would likely require some reasonable electrical adjustments. But we could not see a way that BCCA would be eligible for state/federal subsidies and tax rebates, so the project is not deemed cost effective at this time.
 - **Energy efficiency –**
Ed, Alan and Jaco worked together to replace the compact fluorescent overhead fixtures and bulbs in the Common House Great Room with LED fixtures and bulbs. (Compact fluorescent bulbs contain mercury which LED bulbs do not. The LED bulbs use less energy and are dimmable. So a triple win!)

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- **Water conservation and filtration**

Jaco explored with Jane the possibility of installing filtration to remove plastic fibers from washing machine outflows. The design of our system appears prohibitive. Still open for ideas.

2. Describe three things your committee hopes to accomplish in 2024.

- **Future plans for “greening” the Common House** (esp. converting from natural gas)

We hope to work with the Common House Committee on options for when the gas stove and the other gas furnace need replacing. (Both should last several more years.)

We will help evaluate the pros and cons of eventually replacing the CH roof with metal, which also might facilitate installing a rainwater collection and storage system.

- **See brainstormed chart below: possible CH upgrades toward a greener facility.**

ARENA	PROJECT
Great Room heat pumps	Evaluate and optimize
Older half of the CH	Electrify; More mini-splits, via Aslan design? Portable HPs?
Overhead GR lights	Convert to LED - <i>DONE 12/23</i>
Roof	Replace w/metal? Solar panels? Rainwater collection?
South deck & ramp	When to replace? Expand deck and store water under?
CH laundry room	When replace dryers? Collect grey water? Microplastic filters?
GR ceiling fans?	Very expensive. Repeat temperature measurements floor and ceiling?
Minimize heat loss	Insulation (report on findings); Redesign main CH door?
Kitchen gas stove	Electric replacement? Or more efficient gas stove?
Hot water	Electrify; Replace solar?
Transition Town wisdom	Research for ideas — <i>Found not very productive</i>
Climate refugees here	Do we have a role? Use of common spaces? ADU(s)?
Community solar	BellCoHo participation?

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