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“PARK CITY: A COMMUNITY COMMITTED TO ACTION” PANEL DISCUSSION TO FEATURE ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPIONS & SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

Free event will highlight local efforts to combat climate change

Sunday, January 22, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Festival Base Camp (Bob Wells Plaza, at the base of the stairs to Park City Hall)

PARK CITY, Utah (January 17, 2017)—Park City Municipal Corporation and Summit Community Power Works will host a panel discussion during the 2017 Sundance Film Festival to showcase the local community’s efforts to mitigate climate change. A companion to the Sundance [New Climate](#) panel—which will highlight climate change efforts at the global level—the Park City conversation will focus on the impactful steps that residents, nonprofits, and municipal governments are taking to move away from carbon-based energy sources.

“As a ski town, Park City’s fate depends upon slowing the effects of climate change, but we realize it’s not just about us,” said Park City Mayor, Jack Thomas. “We owe it to future generations around the world to be more responsible stewards of our planet.” In 2015 Park City pledged to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2032. In 2016 the City Council pledged to have 100-percent of its electricity sourced from renewable sources by 2032. Taken together, the Park City’s carbon goals are among the most ambitious in the world.

Sunday’s panel will be composed of sustainability advocates who are raising awareness and facilitating behavior change. “The successful efforts of Park City and Summit County show just how much embodied energy there is at the local level,” said Peter Metcalf, environmental champion and founder of Black Diamond Equipment. “Witnessing the inaction at the state and national levels can feel paralyzing, but the programs that towns and cities are implementing—to empower their own residents and businesses—changes the narrative.”

Nonprofit organization Summit Community Power Works (SCPW) has helped spur action and coordinate efforts among Summit County’s governments, three school districts, and large employers, as well as hundreds of residents and households. “Summit County is a large and demographically diverse county, but our energy efficiency programs have been universally well received,” said executive director Mary Christa Smith. SCPW used the \$5-million [Georgetown University Energy Prize](#) as an organizing principal. (The prize is a two-year competition among municipalities to reduce their energy use.) “We deliberately designed our outreach programs to make the process—whether converting your bulbs to LEDs, winterizing your home, or installing solar panels—as straightforward as possible. The combination of ease, saving money, and fighting for the planet has made the programs wildly successful.”

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Event Details:

Park City: A Community Committed to Action

Sunday, January 22, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Festival Base Camp (Bob Wells Plaza, at the base of the stairs to Park City Hall)

Free event; venue capacity 300

The [New Climate panel](#) will be live-streamed at this location immediately following this discussion.

Panelists:

- **Peter Metcalf**, founder of and brand advocate for Black Diamond Equipment
- **Mary Christa Smith**, executive director, Summit Community Power Works
- **Luke Cartin**, environmental sustainability manager, Park City Municipal Corporation
- **Christofer Nelson** of the Georgetown University Energy Prize
- **Tim Henney**, Park City Council member (**moderator**)



Peter Metcalf, Black Diamond Equipment

Peter R. Metcalf is the founder of Black Diamond Equipment and was its CEO/President until he retired in 2016; he now serves as brand advocate. For over 20 years, Mr. Metcalf has been an active advocate and leader in public policy formulation relative to public lands, business recruitment and retention, recreation, and quality-of-life issues. Mr. Metcalf serves on the Board of the Salt Lake City Branch office of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco as well as the boards of Utah's *Mountain Accord* Wasatch Mountain Planning group, the outdoor industry's *Conservation Alliance (as Vice Chair)*, the user advocacy umbrella organization *Outdoor Alliance*, the *Conservation Lands Foundation*, and the *American Alpine Club as incoming president*. He is married and has three grown children and has resided in Park City for over a quarter-century.



Mary Christa Smith, Summit Community Power Works

Mary Christa Smith attended the University of Utah and received a degree in women's studies and sociology. She also attended Westminster College, receiving a degree in social science and history and a secondary-education teaching credential. Ms. Smith grew up in Salt Lake City and now lives in Kamas and Park City, Utah. She is passionate about the Summit County community, and is grateful for her work

in the energy space that makes a positive difference for the environment. Ms. Smith is the mother of two and enjoys skiing, biking, hiking, spending time with friends and family.



Luke Cartin, Park City Municipal Corporation

Luke Cartin is the environmental sustainability manager for Park City, Utah. He oversees Park City’s goals of achieving net-zero carbon and 100-percent renewable electricity for city operations by 2022, and community-wide 2032. These goals are the most ambitious in North America for any municipality, and one of the most aspiring worldwide. Previous to coming to the city, Mr. Cartin worked in ski resort sustainability for 15 years. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, BBC, *Outside Magazine*, *Newsweek*, and other international press outlets. He lives with his wife, two kids, and mutt in Park City.



Christofer Nelson, Georgetown University Energy Prize

Christofer Nelson currently serves as program manager of the Georgetown University Energy Prize, a national competition that challenges small- to medium-size towns, cities, and counties to rethink their energy use and implement creative strategies to increase efficiency. At Georgetown, Mr. Nelson also manages the Program on Science in the Public Interest, which teaches actionable innovation and equips students to apply scientific problem-solving skills to complex global challenges. Mr. Nelson recently served as the Assistant Director for Open Innovation at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where he focused on scaling the use of open-innovation approaches, including incentive prizes, crowdsourcing, citizen science, and Grand Challenges across federal agencies to address national priorities ranging from developing new clean energy technologies to accelerating biomedical research. Mr. Nelson has also worked with organizations such as the X PRIZE Foundation to educate private companies and philanthropies on the use of incentive prizes to enhance their internal and external collaboration, and accelerate their research and development. Mr. Nelson’s background includes diverse experiences at the intersection of public policy, science, and technology at the local, state, and federal levels on topics ranging from improving service delivery for military and veterans in the State of Illinois to increasing collaboration among the President's Cabinet and Senior White House Staff.



Tim Henney, Park City Council

Mr. Henney was born in New York City and spent his youth in numerous communities in New Jersey and New York, where he developed a deep love of nature and its recreational opportunities. He graduated from Northwestern University in 1980 with a degree in Economics, worked on Wall Street for 12 years, and moved to Park City in 1992, where he has been engaged in real estate investment and management. He also works on Deer Valley's race hill and is co-host of *The Mountain Life* community affairs program on KPCW. Mr. Henney has two children, Thea (26), , and Scott (24). Both grew up in Park City. Since arriving in Park City, Mr. Henney has advocated for trails, open space, education and a more walkable community. He has served on the boards of the original Mountain Trails Foundation; the Citizens Open Space Advisory Committee; Summit Land Conservancy; and the Colby School. In his (until recently ample, and now, much-diminished) free time, Mr. Henney enjoys hiking, running and biking, road biking, alpine and cross-country skiing, and competing in many local athletic events.

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About Park City Municipal Corporation

Park City Municipal Corporation is the government seat for Park City, Utah. A former silver mining town, Park City is now home to two world-class ski resorts and was the mountain host for the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games. The town of 7,500 also hosts many special events including the Sundance Film Festival. www.parkcity.org

About Summit Community Power Works

Nonprofit organization Summit Community Power Works was jointly formed in 2014 by Summit County and Park City Municipal to compete for the \$5-million Georgetown University Energy Prize. SCPW's four "Switch" programs have helped Summit County residents and businesses save energy and money through the conversion of 100,000 bulbs to LED, the installation of more than 100 solar arrays, and rebate programs for smart thermometers and home-energy audits. www.scpw.org