Community Sustainability Council Greensboro, North Carolina October 11, 2010

A regular meeting of the Community Sustainability Council was held on Monday, October 11, 2010 in the Plaza Level Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building, beginning at 2:43 p.m. Members present were: Co-Chair Joel Landau, Bob Powell, Art Davis, Bob Skenes, Carolyn Allen, Marlene Sanford, Terri Hancock, Tom Duckwall, Derrick Giles, Bob Kollar, Eric Hoekstra, and Tom Clary. Staff present were: Dan Curry, Manager of Community Sustainability; Sue Schwartz and Russ Clegg, HCD; Josh Mullins, Intern; Steve Randall, Engineering and Inspections; and Jeryl Covington, Director of Environmental Services. Also present was Peter Kauber who has been recommended to fill the vacant District 5 seat.

Approval of Minutes from August 9, 2010 Meeting:

Ms. Allen moved to approve the minutes from the August 9, 2010 meeting, seconded by Mr. Hoekstra. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) – Final Review and Schedule for City Council Action:

Mr. Giles joined the meeting at 2:47 p.m.

Mr. Curry asked the Council for any final comments on the content and narrative of the SAP. The formatting problems will self-correct when final changes are made.

Co-Chair Powell joined the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

Members pointed out a few changes including adding the initials GHG for greenhouse gas in the Glossary, providing a clearer picture of a storm water grate, recognizing the new titles of Mr. Curry and Ms. Schwartz in the acknowledgement section, and adding in the introduction "reducing impact of changing climate on Greensboro or impact of possible changes in energy supply and costs".

Mr. Kollar moved to approve the document as presented, subject to final format revisions, to be on the November 16, 2010 City Council agenda with the object of City Council having the document two weeks before the meeting, seconded by Ms. Allen. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Co-Chair Landau informed members that the Mayor wants the SAP to be presented as a business item at the City Council meeting as the briefing schedule is full. Members discussed the best strategy to approach City Council regarding the Plan. Suggestions included creating an Executive Summary along with Appendix C, sending an IFYI to Council in advance of the meeting, and creating a fact sheet with bullet items. It was decided to present a summary page containing bullet points.

Mr. Curry will send the final edit to CSC members for their review next week. He will also discuss with the City Manager whether or not a consultant from the Brendle Group should be present at the City Council meeting to answer questions.

Mr. Skenes moved to have an e-mail vote on the approval of the final SAP document on October 25, 2010, seconded by Mr. Hoekstra. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Ms. Hancock left the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Report on Implementation of DOE Energy Grants:

Ms. Swartz reported that the Stewardship Policy was presented to the City Manager and department heads for their review. The policy incorporates most of the recommendations from the Sustainability

Action Plan and other resources. It is under review for implementation suggestions.

Ms. Schwartz stated that bids have been received for the Greenway and awarded for solar streetlights. In addition, solar security cameras are being considered.

There was a flaw in the bids for recycling containers. Containers are being rebid this month. Bids are going out for boiler upgrades, and hydroelectric turbine equipment will be purchased by February of 2011 to be installed no later than June 1, 2011.

Mr. Curry and Mr. Mullins are working on a RFP for nonprofit community education. They are also working on leveraging resources for the McGirt-Horton Library for programming in addition to the revolving loan fund.

Mr. Curry stated that he will e-mail activities under each grant listing allocated and spent funds.

Mr. Curry gave the CSC an update on the second energy grant. A Budget Ordinance Adoption was put before City Council for the creation of a line item for the City budget to accept DOE grant funds so the money can be spent. He is scheduled to return to City Council on November 9, 2010 to give them more information on implementation, partnerships, and financing aspects.

<u>Information on GoGreen Expo in Winston-Salem and Potential Sustainability Event in Greensboro:</u>

Mr. Curry presented a slideshow from the recent GoGreen Expo in Winston-Salem and described the event. Around 5,000 people attended the expo that consisted of displays and speaker sessions.

Mr. Curry stated that Elon College plans to bring in Mr. Bob Dixson, Mayor of Greensburg, Kansas, for a presentation on November 30, 2011. The town was destroyed by a tornado in 2007 and they are rebuilding in a green format. Elon has offered to have Mr. Dixson come to Greensboro on December 1, 2010 if there is an interest. Members discussed the possibility of participating in the event.

A Planning Committee was formed consisting of Mr. Giles, Mr. Duckwall, and Ms. Sanford to investigate the possibility of joint sponsorship among local LED groups. It was suggested that the event be held during a Rotary Club lunch meeting at the Coliseum.

Update from Green Star Committee:

Mr. Mullins reported that the Green Star Awards were broken down into three categories of business, education, and nonprofit/neighborhood. They are researching criteria for the awards including a nomination template and a scoring rubric. The goal is to be able to present the first Green Star Award on EarthDay in April of 2011.

Continued Discussion on Composition of CSC:

Co-Chair Landau indicated that City Council is reviewing the status of various Boards and Commissions in an attempt to streamline. He recommended discontinuing the discussion of the composition of the CSC until City Council decides the future of Boards and Commissions.

Mr. Hoekstra left the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Communications Sent to the CSC:

Mr. Curry reviewed e-mails sent to the CSC along with responses. Topics of the e-mails received included possible student internships, straw-built bale houses, energy audit training certification, and the Architectural Salvage of Greensboro.

Items from Co-Chairs:

Green Technology Update

Co-Chair Powell stated that the Green Technology Committee has merged with a joint committee of the Chamber of Commerce. Both groups are interested in business opportunities for local energy development in Greensboro. The Committee will meet next month to look into adding local energy sources to the Action Plan.

Mr. Duckwall commented that the Cross Company is interested in doing work in alternative energy. He will forward contact information to Co-Chair Powell.

Members who attended the tour of the Waste Treatment Facility updated the Group on the event. Co-Chair Landau thanked Ms. Covington for arranging the tour.

Items from Council Members:

Mr. Skenes pointed out that newer houses are being boarded up in the Glenwood area. Co-Chair Powell explained that UNC-Greensboro is planning to buy property in the area of Glenwood. Discussions are being held between the college and the neighborhood. UNC-Greensboro is committed to having student housing in place by August, 2012.

Ms. Allen updated the Council on Greensboro Beautiful's Stream Clean-Up held on September 18, 2010. Participation was good and included the Rotary Club, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and several school groups.

Items from Staff:

The next meeting of the CSC will be Monday, November 8, 2011.

Items from the Public:

Mr. Joe Wheby stated that he is familiar with the redevelopment of Greensboro, Kansas. He was in support of having the mayor of Greensboro, Kansas speak about the new technologies being used to rebuild the town. He felt it would provide education to encourage the use of this technology more often.

Acknowledgement of Absences:

Mr. Davis moved to acknowledge the absences of Ms. Leiner, Ms. Vickers, Mr. Morgan, and Mr. Montgomery, seconded by Ms. Allen. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Group, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Landau Co-Chairman

JL:sm/jd