

**Community Sustainability Council  
Greensboro, North Carolina  
June 14, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Community Sustainability Council was held on Monday, June 14, 2010 in the Madison Room at The Learning Center, 1001 Fourth Street, beginning at 2:40 p.m. Members present were: Co-Chairs Joel Landau and Bob Powell, Art Davis, Valerie Vickers, Terri Hancock, Carolyn Allen, Bob Skenes, Eric Hoekstra, Tom Clary, and Derrick Giles. Staff present were: Dan Curry, Sue Schwartz, and Russ Clegg, HCD; Steve Randall, Engineering and Inspections; and Gail Licayan, Environmental Services.

Co-Chair Landau acknowledged the presence of Mr. Peter Kauber. Mr. Kauber will be filling the vacant Council seat from District 5.

**Approval of Minutes from the May 10, 2010 Meeting:**

Mr. Davis moved to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2010 meeting, seconded by Mr. Hoekstra. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Review SAP Feedback from the Public Engagement Process:**

Council members commented on feedback from their presentations that included the following:

- The tree canopy should be maintained.
- There is a need for education.
- Provide opportunities for the business community.

Mr. Clegg provided feedback from City departments that included the following:

- Improve clarity of document.
- Highlight definitions and glossary terms.
- A better explanation might be given for the uses of the word “feasible” and the goals that were chosen.
- Increase information available at the library as part of educational outreach.

Staff will provide a detailed report of the feedback to members and consultants to determine the best way to incorporate the comments into the document.

There was a discussion on setting a deadline for presentations and feedback forms to update the Plan if necessary. Members who have not submitted a feedback form from their presentations will send them to staff. The following presentations are scheduled:

- Planning Board on June 16
- Neighborhood Congress on July 10
- Local Schools – Ms. Vickers
- FLS – Mr. Duckwall can arrange for an onsite group presentation at Guilford College or Friends Home.
- Chamber of Commerce – Ms. Hancock is waiting to hear back from her contact. The sustainable component is scheduling no more meetings for the summer.
- Sustainable Greensboro -- The Group discussed combining the Chamber of Commerce presentation with the Sustainable Greensboro presentation.
- Action Greensboro – Ms. Sanford is working on scheduling a date.
- TREBIC – Ms. Sanford will schedule a date.

The Council decided to set a deadline date for presentations and feedback of July 1, 2010. At that time staff will go forward with a revised draft based on feedback.

Mr. Skenes moved to set a July 1, 2010 deadline for comments to be compiled in time for the CSC July 12, 2010 meeting, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Discuss Progress for Getting the SAP to City Council:**

Ms. Schwartz discussed the timeline beyond the next CSC meeting on July 12. A briefing session with City Council would be scheduled for either July or August followed by a public hearing. The Plan would then go to City Council for adoption.

Ms. Hancock asked if the Council wanted to secure an informational booth at the Fun Fourth Celebration to engage the broader public. Ms. Hancock will check on details regarding the booth and e-mail information. Ms. Vickers, Mr. Giles, Ms. Hancock, Ms. Allen, Mr. Kauber, and Co-Chair Powell will coordinate shifts at the booth.

**Update on Implementation of DOE Energy Efficiency Block Grant:**

Ms. Schwartz provided an update on the Block Grant. Bids for the two recycling projects, multifamily and City facilities, have already gone out. She expects the bids to be in place by the middle of August. The bids for the Greenway have been held up but should go out in August.

Mr. Randall stated that the City Operations bids will be going out in July.

Ms. Schwartz informed members that an intern, Josh Mullins, will begin work shortly. He will be working on internal City Operations energy education and setting up a work plan.

Mr. Skenes reiterated his request to receive information on grant money that is spent, where it goes and who spends it. Staff will e-mail the information at the appropriate time.

Ms. Hancock recommended the NCEarthshare.org group to Ms. Schwartz. The site is a nationwide organization helping businesses, government, and schools reduce their energy footprint through energy conservation.

**Update on Implementation of DOE Energy Efficiency Competitive Grant:**

Mr. Curry stated that all of the paperwork has been filled out with the DOE. The grant has been awarded and the agreements are expected any day. The \$5 million DOE stimulus grant goes toward retrofitting existing buildings in the community. The City is focusing on forty neighborhoods in east Greensboro. Approximately 3,600 buildings will be retrofitted over the next three years.

Mr. Curry and Co-Chair Powell discussed their visit to the Clean Energy Road Show in Charlotte, North Carolina. Co-Chair Powell noted that Greensboro is one four cities in the state doing large-scale neighborhood energy development. He is interested in developing communication with the other frontrunners, Charlotte, Asheville, and Durham.

Co-Chair Powell reiterated his feeling that Greensboro needs a full-time Sustainability Manger in the City Manager's Office. Members discussed amending the grant application to divert money to fund a Sustainability Manager.

### **Report on State Energy Office Grant Application:**

Co-Chair Powell gave a PowerPoint presentation on the grant application that was submitted last week. The grant will provide technical assistance to help metropolitan areas trying to ramp-up to build retrofits. The objective is to determine strategies to retrofit residential and/or commercial buildings. A & T University would provide large-scale evaluation and monitoring.

Co-Chair Powell informed members that if the grant is awarded, the State's pilot implementation would happen in Greensboro. He reviewed key components of the program and the Homeowner-Contractor Model. Technical and business training will occur along with outreach and feedback. Review and replication will occur at the state level.

North Carolina has applied for \$2 million dollars of grant money to be used over a three-year period. The grants will be awarded in September, 2010.

### **Restarting the Green Technologies Sub-Committee:**

Mr. Clary, Mr. Duckwall, and Mr. Kauber volunteered to serve on the sub-committee. Co-Chair Powell asked Ms. Hancock to provide the contact person for the sustainable group working with the Chamber of Commerce. She agreed to e-mail the information.

### **Update on Green Star Program:**

Ms. Vickers reminded the Council that two types of awards were considered, Certificates of Appreciation to be handed out by City Council based on CSC recommendations and annual Green Star awards broken down into four different categories. The CSC and City staff would work together on nomination forms to be placed on the website. The judging would take place once a year for the annual Green Star awards. The Certificates of Appreciation could be given out two or three times a year in conjunction with City Council. The Green Star Program would fall under the Education and Outreach sub-committee. Ms. Vickers had samples of certificates made up by Sara Ladd; however, money would be needed for a final professional product. Communication with media would also be required.

Co-Chair Landau reminded the group that City Council had already approved the CSC issuing Certificates of Appreciation, and bringing Green Star award recommendations to City Council for their issuance.

Ms. Vickers asked members for their feedback on the next step. She felt it was important to be clear about the criteria and types of awards, and placing the information on the website. It was suggested that the intern research other communities to see if they had similar award programs and report back at the next meeting. Mr. Curry suggested that criteria should be documented and cleared with City Council. Ms. Vickers will consolidate the list of awards and e-mail it to members for their feedback. Once the categories and specific criteria are determined, the information for nominations will be placed on the website. Staff will check into a resource to print the certificates.

Mr. Duckwall left the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

### **Communications Sent to the CSC this Past Month:**

The Council briefly discussed e-mails and CSC responses noted on the attachment to the agenda.

**Items from Co-Chairs:**

Co-Chair Landau reminded members that five terms officially expired at the end of May. Co-Chair Landau and Ms. Sanford have asked to continue on the Council. Mr. Hoekstra, Ms. Leiner and Mr. Kollar will not be returning; however, Mr. Hoekstra will serve until a replacement is found.

Co-Chair Landau asked members for recommendations of potential members from Districts 2 and 3.

Co-Chair Landau was recently interviewed on TCT, Channel 6, to be aired on June 19, 2010. He spoke on the Sustainability Action Plan.

**Items from Group Members:**

Mr. Davis encouraged members to attend Rethink, Redesign, Rebuild workshops in Charlotte, NC on June 28 and 29.

**Items from the Public:**

None.

**Items from Staff:**

Members can get copies of the updated one-page handout from Mr. Clegg at the HCD front desk on the third floor.

Mr. Curry advised members of Winston-Salem's Go Green event on September 25, 2010.

**Acknowledgement of Absences:**

Mr. Hoekstra moved to acknowledge the absences of Ms. Sanford, Ms. Leiner, Mr. Kollar, and ad-hoc advisors Mr. Morgan and Mr. Montgomery, seconded by Ms. Allen. The Council unanimously approved 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