

**Community Sustainability Council
Greensboro, North Carolina
November 16, 2009
(draft)**

A regular meeting of the Community Sustainability Council was held on Monday, November 16, 2009 in the Plaza Level Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building, beginning at 2:35 p.m. Members present were: Co-Chair Joel Landau, Co-Chair Bob Powell, Tom Duckwall, Terri Hancock, Carolyn Allen, Valerie Vickers, Art Davis, Marlene Sanford, Tom Clary, Bob Kollar, and Bob Skenes. Staff present included: Dan Curry and Susan Schwartz, HCD; Steve Randall, Energy and Sustainability Program Manager; and Holly Johnson sitting in for Jeryl Covington, Environmental Services. Also present were ad hoc advisors Phillip Morgan, Community Relations Developer for Piedmont Natural Gas, and Davis Montgomery, Duke Energy.

Approval of Minutes from the September 21, 2009 Regular Meeting:

Ms. Allen moved to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2009 meeting, seconded by Mr. Clary. The Council voted unanimously 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Allen, Vickers, Davis, Sanford, Clary, Kollar, Skenes. Nays: None.)

Approval of Minutes from the October 12, 2009 Regular Meeting:

Mr. Skenes moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2009 meeting, seconded by Ms. Vickers. The Council voted unanimously 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Allen, Vickers, Davis, Sanford, Clary, Kollar, Skenes. Nays: None.)

Proposed Code of Ethics:

Mr. Kollar moved to adopt the proposed Code of Ethics and further moved that the Code be added to the CSC website and forwarded to the City Council for their information, seconded by Mr. Davis.

Co-Chair Landau made a friendly amendment to the motion and Mr. Kollar moved to ask staff to look into existing Code of Ethics being used by Boards, Commissions, and City Council, and run it by the legal department for their feedback, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Allen, Vickers, Davis, Sanford, Clary, Kollar, Skenes. Nays: None.)

Report on City Council Presentation:

Co-Chairs Landau and Powell went before City Council recently to ask for authority to give Green Star awards. City Council was in support of the program and will give out the awards recommended by the CSC.

During the meeting City Council asked the CSC to serve as an oversight committee for reviewing landfill technologies. However, later in the meeting Council directed the City Manager to make the reviews. Co-Chair Landau indicated that the CSC may be asked to assist the process in the future.

Green Star Award Program Proposal:

Ms. Vickers described the two types of Green Star awards to be recommended to City Council. One type is an annual Greensboro Green Star award for leadership in energy/sustainability for groups such as small business, community action, education, non-profits, and youth projects. If no one is nominated on the CSC website, an award will not be given that year. These awards could be given at Earth Day or during a City Council meeting. The second type is a Greensboro Green Star Certificate

of Appreciation to be awarded through nomination of the CSC website. These would be given throughout the year as the CSC passes recommendations to the City Council. Ms. Vickers reviewed the criteria and action plan to facilitate the awards and members suggested additional award categories.

Due to an overlapping of members, Ms. Vickers recommended moving the Green Star Award committee into the Education Outreach committee. Co-Chair Landau will review the program with the Mayor.

Ms. Vickers moved to move the Green Star Award committee into the Education Outreach committee, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Allen, Vickers, Davis, Sanford, Clary, Kollar, Skenes. Nays: None.)

Discussion of EECS Proposal Process to Date:

Mr. Curry updated members on their request to reallocate EECS funds. He confirmed that \$122,000 was moved from green jobs to the revolving loan fund. The Fire Chief also approved the reprogramming of \$27,000 designated to solar hot water fire stations into the revolving loan fund. Mr. Curry reported that Water Resources declined the CSC's request for reallocation as they could find no additional funds in their budget.

Staff and members reviewed the funding allocations on the latest spreadsheet and noted some discrepancies. Staff will resolve the numbers before the City Council meeting.

Despite the time frame, Co-Chair Landau noted his frustration at the last meeting having to make funding decisions on the same day the proposal was first presented. Co-Chair Powell stated his hope that the CSC would have a more active level of participation in the next phase of the process.

Ms. Hancock joined the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

The Group took a short break to take a group photograph.

Ms. Schwartz left the meeting and returned with an update on questions posed by the Council relating to possible calculation errors. Seth Jensen, with the Brendle Group, clarified that the \$44,600 in question should have been moved into the revolving loan fund category bringing that total to \$329,600. She also clarified reasoning behind changing education "coordinator" to "coordination".

Ms. Vickers asked the Council to consider putting an additional amount of \$15,000 of savings into the education outreach and coordination category instead of the revolving loan fund or contingency fund. She gave rationale for keeping the funding at 10%.

Ms. Hancock moved to put the extra \$15,000 into education outreach and coordination, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted 9-2 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Clary, Duckwall, Kollar, Allen, Vickers, Davis, Hancock. Nays: Skenes, Sanford.)

Ms. Schwartz indicated that she would send a copy of the corrected allocations to Council members.

Reports from the Active Subcommittees:

- **Transportation and Land Use**

Ms. Sanford gave an overview of the subcommittee's work. The group suggested identifying transit corridors and activity centers and getting public policy on record; promoting intentional communities; promoting transit riders; and increasing bicycling infrastructure. She also discussed infrastructure

strategies such as investigating alternative storm water retention models, developing clear plans for public infrastructure, along with associated incentives. Ms. Sanford noted several items to be added to the report from the meeting including market research with potential discretionary riders and developing the express and small bus options.

Mr. Davis moved to approve the Transportation and Land Use report with the changes noted, seconded by Mr. Duckwall. The Council voted unanimously 11-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Allen, Vickers, Davis, Sanford, Clary, Kollar, Skenes, Hancock. Nays: None.)

- **Green Technologies**

Co-Chair Landau stated that this report will be presented at next month's meeting.

Ms. Vickers left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

- **Waste Reduction and Recycling**

Ms. Hancock stated that the subcommittee met and decided to continue with the multifamily recycling program and increase the number of facilities as part of the program. They will continue to work with the Housing Authority to push out public housing units in January of 2010. They are currently looking at communities that receive city fee-based garbage service and possibly making that a mandatory item. Members also discussed the possibility of moving toward mandatory recycling beginning with the City to set an example. Other points in her presentation suggested providing recycling facilities at all recreation centers and public buildings, reducing solid waste generated by city government, ban use of city funds to purchase water in plastic bottles, adopt a City of Greensboro Sustainability mission statement, encourage recycling at all City buildings and facilities, and creating a recycling incentive program. Suggestions were made to revisit items under planning and regulations. The group will present an updated report at next month's meeting.

- **Education and Outreach**

Co-Chair Landau stated that this report will be presented at next month's meeting.

Update on EPA Sustainable Skylines Grant Application:

Mr. Curry reported that the City did not receive a favorable response on the grant application.

E-mails sent to the CSC Website in the Past Month:

Co-Chair Landau reviewed the list of e-mails attached to the agenda. There were no items requiring action by Council members.

Items from Group Members:

Ms. Allen commented that she plans to forward a copy of a Pledge of Sustainability to the Education Committee. This pledge to live a sustainable life could be incorporated by an individual or a household.

Items from Staff:

Mr. Curry reported that the Department of Energy has issued the Energy Block Grant competitive round funding application. The application is due December 14, 2009.

Acknowledgement of Absences:

Mr. Davis moved to acknowledge the absences of Mr. Hoekstra, Mr. Giles, and Ms. Leiner, seconded by Mr. Clary. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Group, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Landau and Bob Powell
Co-Chairs

JL-BP:sm/jd