

**Community Sustainability Council  
Greensboro, North Carolina  
March 9, 2009**

A meeting of the Community Sustainability Council was held on Monday, March 9, 2009 in the Plaza Level Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building, beginning at 3:05 p.m. Members present were: Co-Chair Joel Landau, Co-Chair Bob Powell, Art Davis, Bob Kollar, Marlene Sanford, Tom Duckwall, Tom Clary, Debbie Leiner, Eric Hoekstra and Valerie Vickers. Staff present were: Dan Curry, HCD; Steve Randall, Energy and Sustainability Program Manager; and Jeryl Covington, Director of Environmental Services.

**Approval of Minutes from the February 9, 2009 Regular Meeting:**

Mr. Hoekstra moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2009 meeting, seconded by Ms. Sanford. The Council voted unanimously 8-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Kollar, Sanford, Duckwall, Clary, Leiner, Hoekstra, Vickers. Nays: None.)

Co-Chair Powell and Mr. Davis joined the meeting.

**Presentation from the RecycleBank:**

Dale Wyrick, Field Operations Manager for the City of Greensboro, stated that staff feels the RecycleBank program would be a good fit for Greensboro. There is good participation in the City's recycling program, and he commented that RecycleBank could take the program to the next level.

Sheldon Smith, Solid Waste Collections Manager with the City of Greensboro, gave an overview of the City's recycling program over the last three years. Recycling highlights included increased revenues, reduced processing costs, and increased drop-off sites. Greensboro was named one of America's 50 Greenest Cities in 2008 in addition to being awarded a grant for a joint recycling project with the Coliseum.

Tim Bowers, 13300 Indian Rocks Road in Largo, Florida, stated that he is with RecycleBank. The purpose of the RecycleBank program is to help the community increase their tonnage and improve the number of people participating in recycling. He described how the program works, how the City can save money through disposal cost avoidance, and how households are rewarded for recycling. Mr. Bowers pointed out that Greensboro already has everything in place to run the program. There was a discussion regarding the initial six-month pilot program, revenue sharing, and success with the program in other cities.

Scott Mouw, 312 Compton Road in Raleigh, North Carolina, is with the State Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance. He congratulated the City on the high standards set by their recycling program. He commented that the RecycleBank program could help Greensboro increase participation even more through their rewards based program. He encouraged the launch of a RecycleBank program in North Carolina.

Fred Hammond, 6705 Reedy Creek Road in Charlotte, North Carolina, works with RecycleBank's operational issues. He discussed costs, the accounting process, and contract terms.

There was a discussion among Council members regarding partnering with staff to propose the program to City Council. They discussed financial aspects and agreed that they were in favor of the concept.

Mr. Kollar moved to authorize Co-Chairs Landau and Powell to pursue a briefing session to promote the program, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Davis, Kollar, Sanford, Duckwall, Clary, Leiner, Hoekstra, Vickers. Nays: None.)

### **Briefing on the City's Response to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Stimulus Funding:**

Mr. Curry informed the Group that the purpose of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program is to reduce fossil fuel emissions; to reduce total energy use; and to improve energy efficiency in transportation, building, and other appropriate sectors. The American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009 funded this program and there is a potential of approximately 1 million to 2 million dollars coming to Greensboro. He described eligible uses of the funds and added that the application process would begin shortly. He will update the Council at the next meeting.

### **Development of CSC Website Policy:**

Co-Chair Landau pointed out that there is no official policy regarding what is posted on the CSC website. He reviewed how postings have been handled in the past and indicated that Pat Boswell will be looking into City policies relating to this in the future. In the meantime, it has been suggested to temporarily make the CSC website link to [www.gogreentriad.com](http://www.gogreentriad.com) very prominent and refer people to check there for upcoming events.

Ms. Sanford moved to adopt this policy for posting, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Davis, Kollar, Sanford, Duckwall, Clary, Leiner, Hoekstra, Vickers. Nays: None.)

Mr. Curry will update the Council on policies relating to links from City websites at the next meeting.

Mr. Hoekstra left the meeting.

### **Report on Recent E-Mails to the CSC Website:**

Co-Chair Landau informed the Council that an e-mail was received by a group requesting the opportunity to make a presentation on the Jordan Lake Stormwater Rules. After consultation with staff, the request was denied as the issue does not directly impact sustainability and other discussion forums are available. He added that the Neighborhood Congress will be holding a meeting on the Jordan Lake Stormwater Rules on March 14, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Greensboro Main Library.

Co-Chair Landau informed all present that the subcommittee work sessions cited on the agenda will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 due to the length of today's meeting.

**Items from Co-Chairs:**

Co-Chair Powell stated that a CERT workshop on Sustainable Energy Alternatives and Low Income Communities will be held on March 19, 2009 at A&T University.

**Items from Group Members:**

Ms. Vickers updated the Group on "Earth Hour" which will be observed around the world on March 28, 2009 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. She gave an overview of "Earth Hour" and requested input from the Council on how to promote the event. Suggestions included the preparation of a news release, engaging help from the Neighborhood Congress, and generating a letter of endorsement to get on City Council's agenda to announce the event.

Ms. Sanford moved that the CSC publicly endorse the "Earth Hour" event, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted 10-0 to approve the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Davis, Kollar, Sanford, Duckwall, Clary, Leiner, Hoekstra, Vickers. Nays: None.)

Mr. Hoekstra left the meeting unexcused; therefore, his vote is counted in the affirmative.

**Items from the Public:**

Brian Higgins, 1007 Haywood Street, stated that Sustainable Greensboro, Action Greensboro, and the Elsewhere Artist Collaborative are sponsoring Greensboro's first Earth Day Celebration on April 22, 2009. The event will be held at Center City Park from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

**Items from Staff:**

Jeryl Covington, City of Greensboro, stated that Driving Clean and Green will be held at the Greensboro Coliseum on April 16, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The event is free and will feature alternative fuel vehicles and alternative technologies.

**Acknowledgement of Absences:**

The absences of Ms. Allen and Mr. Venable were acknowledged.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business before the Group, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Landau and Bob Powell  
Co-chairs

JL-BP:sm/jd