

**MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Community Sustainability Council (CSC) was held on Monday, March 11, 2013 in the Plaza Level Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building, commencing at 3:00 p.m. The following members were present: Co-Chairs Joel Landau and Bob Powell, Bill Barker, Carolyn Allen, Bob Kollar, Art Davis, and Tom Duckwall. Staff present included Caitlin Warren, Planning and Community Development, and Mike Williams, City Legal Department. Also present was City Councilwoman, Nancy Hoffmann.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 4, 2013 MEETING:

Mr. Barker moved to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2013 meeting as amended, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 7-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Barker, Allen, Kollar, Davis, Duckwall. Nays: None.)

REVIEW OF BYLAWS PROPOSAL WITH OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY:

Mike Williams, City Legal Department, reviewed the February 6, 2013 draft of proposed CSC bylaws and as a result, he has made several suggestions. He recommended that the number required for a quorum should be increased from seven members to eight members. Since there will be 14 members on the Council, having eight members present for a quorum would allow for one more than half the total number of members. In addition, he suggested that the CSC may not want to go by Roberts Rules of Order as it is designed for large assemblies of people. He plans to forward procedural rules of other commissions that can be used by the CSC to run its meetings. The bylaws can reflect that the CSC will adopt its own rules and procedures.

Mr. Barker pointed out that the City's website does not allow for potential volunteers to the CSC. He suggested adding the CSC to the website list along with a short statement describing work done by the group. Co-Chair Landau plans to follow-up on the matter.

Mr. Williams used the War Memorial Commission as an example of an advisory group and reviewed their bylaws to describe how boards and commissions are organized.

CONSOLIDATE ACTION PRIORITIES FOR A REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL:

Co-Chair Landau asked each subcommittee for highlights to be included in the list of recommendations to City Council and the City Manager.

1. City Operations

- Establish a Green Team comprised of a representative from each City department for the purpose of sharing best practices for reducing energy usage, cost efficient supplies, operating in ways to reduce the carbon footprint, and use as a channel to implement other items in the Sustainability Action Plan (SAP).
- Look at City energy efficiency and consider if there could be a five-year update.

2. Nature in the City

- Arbor Day - March 22, 2013. Continue collaboration between various groups to help improve the City's tree canopy.

- Continue to make sure that City Ordinances are conducive to community gardens by allowing an outbuilding on a lot without a primary residence through a change in the Ordinance.

3. Green Technology

- Coordinate Green Business Forum.
- Identify existing and emerging green business opportunities.
- Integrate these opportunities into the City's economic development planning.

4. Transportation and Land Use

- Pursue development of mass transit.
- Establish cross-town transit connections.
- Coordinate activity among stakeholders.
- Bicycle sharing and rental programs.

5. Education

- Work with schools to promote sustainability awareness.
- Look for funding.
- Work with the Greensboro Neighborhood Congress.
- Green Awards -- Work with the Triad Business Journal since they already have an event sponsor.

Mr. Barker felt that the energy use comparison was extremely important to provide ongoing tracking. Co-Chair Powell felt that the action should be independent of the subcommittees as it is an over-arching measure.

City Councilwoman Hoffmann commented that the list of 15 proposals should be narrowed down to five for presentation to City Council. She felt the actions under Transportation and Land Use should receive emphasis. In addition, she expressed support for the concept of a Green Team under the City Operations category and the five-year energy efficiency update.

Mr. Barker said that the issue of an Ordinance change to allow sheds in community gardens should be a priority to address separately and not included on the list to City Council.

Co-Chair Powell moved to respond directly to Valencia Roner; Councilwoman T. Dianne Bellamy-Small; and Denise Turner Roth, City Manager; that an Ordinance change to allow sheds in community gardens is an issue the CSC would like to see addressed, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 7-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Barker, Allen, Kollar, Davis, Duckwall. Nays: None.)

Ms. Allen volunteered to draft the response within the week.

Mr. Kollar suggested that any communication sent to CSC members should be copied to City Councilwoman Hoffmann.

Members discussed the items to be presented to City Council as follows:

- (1) Combine pursuing development of mass transit system, establishing cross-town transit connections, and coordinating activity among stakeholders into one item.
- (2) Bicycle sharing and rental programs.

(3) Integrate work with the University of Central Florida and/or the Green Business Form to identify existing and emerging green business opportunities and then integrate these into the City's economic development planning.

(4) Establish a Green Team.

(5) Look at City energy efficiency and consider if there could be a five-year update.

Members discussed the importance of promoting sustainability in schools. Co-Chair Powell commented that recycling and waste management were not included on the list of action items. Mr. Barker pointed out that more resources and expertise were needed to address these issues.

Following discussion, members decided to include an additional item to present to City Council as follows:

(6) There should be an ongoing effort to increase Greensboro's tree canopy.

Mr. Kollar moved to adopt the six items as recommendations to City Council, seconded by Mr. Barker. The Council voted unanimously 7-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Barker, Allen, Kollar, Davis, Duckwall. Nays: None.)

Mr. Barker volunteered to write up the recommendation to City Council within the week and email it to CSC members for their review and comments.

SCHEDULE MEETINGS FOR REMAINDER OF 2013:

Members agreed to hold a meeting on April 8, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the restructuring of the CSC, the CSC bylaws, and action priorities. Mr. Davis plans to email other members to remind them of scheduled meetings in the future.

ITEMS FROM CO-CHAIRS:

Co-Chair Landau announced that the new Deep Roots Market will open on March 20, 2013 and the Grand Opening celebration will be held on April 20, 2013.

Co-Chair Powell stated that there will be a TEDx presentation in Greensboro on April 16, 2013 at the Greensboro Historic Museum.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Kollar moved that the Code of Behavior be added as Article 9 in the CSC bylaws with the following change: (1) that the word "servant" replace the word "servanthood" in the series of items listed in the first paragraph. Co-Chair Landau made a friendly amendment to omit the wording "Article 9" as the bylaws are being changed and the article number might also change. Mr. Kollar agreed with the friendly amendment.

Mr. Kollar amended his motion and moved that the Code of Behavior be added as an article to the CSC bylaws with the following change: (1) that the word "servant" replace the word "servanthood" in the series of items listed in the first paragraph, seconded by Ms. Allen. The Council voted unanimously 7-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Barker, Allen, Kollar, Davis, Duckwall. Nays: None.)

Mr. Kollar recommended that a change be made to the bylaws in Article 1 to add “with the overarching goal of reducing Greensboro’s carbon footprint” following the word “residence” so that that the sentence reads as follows: “..... and self-sustaining long-term use of material and energy resources by the City and local residents with the overarching goal of reducing Greensboro’s carbon footprint.” In addition, in Article 4, Mr. Kollar stated that under #6, “one CSC members” should be changed to “one CSC member”.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ABSENCES:

Mr. Davis moved to acknowledge the absences of Ms. Sanford, Mr. Giles, and Mr. Blackstock, seconded by Ms. Allen. The Council voted unanimously 7-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Barker, Allen, Kollar, Davis, Duckwall. Nays: None.)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Group, the meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Landau
Co-Chairman

JL:sm/jd