

**MINUTES OF THE  
COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 13, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Community Sustainability Council (CSC) was held on Monday, May 13, 2013 in the Plaza Level Conference Room of the Melvin Municipal Office Building, commencing at 3:07 p.m. The following members were present: Co-Chairs Joel Landau and Bob Powell, Bob Kollar, Art Davis, Marlene Sanford, and Tom Duckwall. Staff present included Hanna Cockburn, Jeff Sovich, and Steve Randall; Planning and Community Development. Also present was Mike Williams, City Legal Department; and City Councilwoman, Nancy Hoffmann.

Chair Landau introduced Hanna Cockburn, the new staff liaison. Ms. Cockburn indicated that Jeff Sovich and Karen Markovics will be serving as staff support for the CSC.

**RECYCLING PROGRAM UPDATES:**

Sheldon Smith, Solid Waste Division Manager, distributed copies of the new 5-year Recycling Contract that went into effect January, 2013. One of the changes reflected in the new contract is the elimination of processing fees in lieu of a flat fee. He indicated that facility upgrades are planned later in the year to increase efficiency, increase tonnage, and identify non-recyclables going into trucks.

Mr. Smith stated the Coca Cola Recycling contest closed out in January, 2013. There were 160 winners receiving \$50.00 gift cards from Harris Teeter. The City has started its own incentive program that will run through the end of May, 2013. Gift cards will be given to winning participants.

Mr. Smith reported that the Mattress-Go-Round pilot project was successful in the collection of mattresses, box springs and upholstered items. A contract was signed with Mattress-Go-Round in December, 2012 for a daily call-in schedule. He discussed details and costs associated with the contract. He reported that Mattress-Go-Round has collected 2,206 units and the City has collected 2,040 units through their bulk service.

Mr. Smith announced that Be Thrifty has approached the City with a proposal for textile recycling. He will provide details at a later date.

**APPROVAL OF AMENDED MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 4, 2013 MEETING:**

Ms. Sanford moved approval of the amended minutes from the February 4, 2013 meeting, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 6-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Kollar, Sanford, Davis. Nays: None.)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 11, 2013 MEETING:**

Mr. Kollar moved approval of the March 11, 2013 minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 6-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Duckwall, Kollar, Sanford, Davis. Nays: None.)

**ITEMS FROM DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

Ms. Cockburn, director of Long-Range and Strategic Planning, informed members that the work of the CSC has been aligned with the department's long-range planning initiatives. In addition to the CSC, the Long-Range and Strategic Planning department is responsible for historic preservation and redevelopment projects. The alignment will allow sustainability efforts to be regularly measured and accounted for in all planning activities. She suggested that the CSC develop strategies for items they consider important along with timelines for implementation.

### **REVIEW PROPOSED BYLAWS:**

Co-Chair Powell stated that this issue will be brought back to the CSC after a meeting with the legal department can be held and the draft of bylaws and Code of Behavior can be reviewed.

### **REVIEW RESTRUCTURING PROPOSAL:**

Co-Chair Landau reported that the restructuring proposal was submitted last month to the City Manager and City Council; however, no response has been received at this point.

Co-Chair Powell said that Mr. Barker communicated the following comments regarding the proposal: (1) have City Council approve membership structure so that open slots can be filled with an optimum mix of generalists and specialists; (2) discuss means of how to identify experts for seating as CSC members now and in the future; (3) identify in draft bylaws which items are in complete agreement and prepare a submission of those to City Council or City Manager for approval and determine what level of authority is appropriate to approve subsequent bylaw changes; and (4) identify bylaw items that CSC members do not unanimously agree on to be researched and brought up at a later meeting.

Members noted that the restructuring proposal has already been submitted to City Council and the City Manager. In addition, the CSC is waiting for legal department involvement before action can be taken on bylaws. Members discussed ways to identify individuals to fill the expert seats.

### **COMMUNITY GARDENS UPDATE:**

Mr. Kollar reported that he and Ms. Allen are working with staff to facilitate an Ordinance change that would allow a 12'x12' building on lots.

### **REPORT FROM GREEN TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE:**

Members are in receipt of a Green Technology update emailed by Mr. Barker. Mr. Duckwall reported that Mr. Barker is working on an analysis of energy usage in the City, particularly between the years 2007-2012. In addition, Mr. Duckwall updated members on work with the University of Central Florida and the Energy Study Center. He indicated that an A&T faculty member has won a \$10,000 prize for work on a hog waste vs. petroleum project. The project is in the running for an even larger cash prize. In addition, he reported that Mr. Barker is working on the data base for green companies.

### **SCHEDULE MEETINGS FOR REMAINDER 2013:**

Chair Landau stated that the current proposal allows for quarterly meetings that place the remaining 2013 meetings in August and November. Members agreed that additional CSC meetings could be held on an "as needed" basis. Meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month.

Ms. Cockburn stated that staff is proposing a work session during the August 12, 2013 CSC meeting to delve into the work plan and move important items forward. Prior to the meeting staff plans to review information at hand and look at already identified priorities to be able to be prepared for an engaging work session. An agenda and structure of engagement will be sent to members in preparation for the meeting.

Ms. Sanford inquired as to how the restructuring issue could be resolved and new members put in place in time for the August, 2013 work session. Members discussed putting the issue on City Council's consent agenda.

**ITEMS FROM CO-CHAIRS:**

Co-Chair Powell stated that Guilford County Schools was highlighted in the newspaper for their participation in the NEED (National Energy Education Development) project. Colfax Elementary was cited as a national champion and Northern Middle School was a state champion along with another Guilford County high school.

**ITEMS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Mr. Davis stated that the proposed Vegetative Maintenance Ordinance is currently in draft form. Ms. Hoffmann indicated that the item will be on the May 21, 2013 City Council agenda. She commented that the work team was well represented and there have been a series of public hearings to produce what she feels is the best City Ordinance in the state.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ABSENCES:**

Ms. Sanford moved to acknowledge the absences of Mr. Giles, Ms. Allen, Mr. Barkley, and Mr. Blackstock, seconded by Mr. Davis. The Council voted unanimously 6-0 in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Landau, Powell, Sanford, Kollar, Davis, Duckwall. Nays: None.)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the Group, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Landau  
Co-Chairman

JL:sm/jd