

Community Sustainability Council
Informal Work Session, January 11, 2016
Meeting Notes

Attending: Joel Landau, Tom Duckwall, Howard Taylor, Stephen McCollum, Bill McNeil, John Kavanagh, Art Davis, Greg Johns, Ravin St. Julien-Brown, Hanna Cockburn, Dana Clukey, Jeff Sovich.

During its November meeting, the CSC determined that it needed to:

- a) establish more fluid communication with City Council;
- b) identify its priorities for 2016; and
- c) improve its capacity for successfully completing annual priorities.

Review status of SAP implementation

- Consideration by City Council Infrastructure Committee
- Updated information on outstanding items

CSC subcommittee structure

- Current structure still viable?
- Reorganize?

CSC members have touched base with Mayor Vaughn, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson, Council Members Hightower, Abuzuaiter, and Hoffmann.

The general consensus is that sustainability is not a driving policy issue, but progress has been made on items such as vehicle fleet fuel efficiency and street lamp conversion to LED.

Would it be possible to fold the City Green Team proposal into an existing program?

What kind of approach to gaining City Council support is needed? Establish one or two priority items to focus on.

How can the “generic” applicants in the Boards & Commissions databank be vetted for appointment to CSC, consistent with CSC bylaws?

Sustainability is a large compound topic. What are we sustaining? Aim should be on CSC mission statement.

- Energy
- Climate adaptation (physical, operational)
- Etc.

Coordination with national policies at local level.

Ongoing struggle with recycling program

- Ideas from CSC for how to improve compliance & market viability?
- Plastic bottle reduction / elimination?
- Participatory budgeting proposal to establish funding? – needs to happen soon

Recommended changes / updates to SAP?

Develop specific proposal for preferred approach for improved communication and interaction with Council & staff? Greg Johns to meet with Nancy Hoffmann.

Request slot on February Infrastructure Committee agenda for progress report on implementation of the Sustainability Action Plan.

CSC Priorities for 2016:

- a) Receive an update on implementation of the Sustainability Action Plan (ie status/progress of efforts to advance the Plan's 13 Policies, 41 Strategies, and 120 Implementation Items).
- b) Develop a detailed recommendation for steps the City could take to reduce the consumption and disposal of single-use plastic water bottles in Greensboro.
- c) Develop a detailed recommendation for steps the City could take to establish Greensboro as a national leader in development of electric vehicle technologies.

Ravin St. Julien-Brown – Question: Has the CSC ever proposed a clean energy or renewable energy resolution to the City Council? No.