



GREENSBORO
NORTH CAROLINA

PLANNING

**GREENSBORO COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
Minutes, Regular Meeting
3:00 pm December 12, 2016
Transportation Conference Room, 3rd Floor
Melvin Municipal Office Building**

CSC Members Present:

Stephen McCollum, Chair	Bill McNeil	Art Davis
Faun Finley, Vice-Chair	Kelli Swain	Will Years
Hillary Meredith		

Staff and Others Present:

Yvonne Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem	Chris Marriott, Field Operations
Hanna Cockburn, Planning	Tori Carle, Field Operations, Recycling Education
Jeff Sovich, Planning	Matt Wallace, Guilford County Property Management
Hart Crane, Planning	Robert McNeese, Guilford County Facilities & Parks
Johnny Galbreath, Parks and Recreation	Vicki Foust, NC A&T Center for Energy Research & Technology
Raleigh Stout, Historic Aycock Neighborhood	Deborah Staves, League of Women Voters Environmental Roundtable
Alicia Spivey, Piedmont Sierra Club	

Chair McCollum called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

1) APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 8, 2016 MEETING

There being no changes to the minutes of the August 8 meeting, Chair McCollum called for a motion. Ms Swain moved to approve the minutes and was seconded by Ms Finley. The CSC voted unanimously approve the minutes as submitted.

2) ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR FOR 2017

Chair McCollum opened the floor to nominations for the position of CSC Chair for 2017. Mr. McNeil moved to nominate Ms Finley, and was seconded by Mr. Davis. There being no further nominations for the position, the CSC voted unanimously to appoint Ms Finley as Chair for 2017.

Chair McCollum called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for 2017. Ms Finley moved to nominate Ms Swain, and was seconded by Mr. McNeil. There being no further nominations for the position, the CSC voted unanimously to appoint Ms Swain as Vice-Chair for 2017.

3) REMARKS BY MAYOR PRO TEM YVONNE JOHNSON, FOLLOWED BY Q & A

Chair McCollum introduced Mayor Pro Tem Yvonne Johnson, praising her vision for establishing this committee. CSC members each introduced themselves to Mayor Pro Tem Johnson. Ms Johnson then described some sustainability initiatives that she has learned about, including a Jamaican water bottle program. She also called attention to London as a good example of implementing low emission zones in urban areas. She announced that the City Council has requested that a

representative of the CSC attend a City Council meeting twice a year to report on the state of sustainability in the city, and the CSC's efforts in that regard.

Ms Swain asked Ms Johnson what Greensboro's biggest sustainability hurdle is. Ms Johnson responded that air pollution is one of the main problems facing Greensboro, citing the asthma rate. She also spoke about being interested in promoting a plastic bottle reduction, reuse, and recycling program. Discussion then turned to the water bottle programs already established in Greensboro. Ms Finley asked Ms Johnson what existing resources are already in Greensboro that CSC that could take advantage of. Mr. McCollum recommended that the City should recognize the commitment to sustainability demonstrated by Mr. Sovich in completing the Wake Forest University Graduate Certificate in Sustainability program.

Ms. Finley asked Ms Johnson about the status of the proposed bike-sharing system, now that voters have approved the bond package which included funds for that purpose. She replied that the CSC's input will be solicited for how the bike sharing program manifests.

Chair McCollum informed the CSC that Mr. Taylor submitted his resignation this morning, and that now there are two openings on the CSC. The open seats are those designated for nomination by the representatives of City Council Districts 1 and 2, respectively.

4) CSC COMMUNICATIONS (WIGGIO PLATFORM EXPIRING)

The CSC discussed the imminent termination of the Wiggio online platform, which they have used to share materials and stay connected between meetings. Ms Swain has recommended Bitrix24.com as a replacement. Regarding social media content, Ms Cockburn recommended that posts be sent to Ms Carle for distribution, instead of individually posting things online on behalf of the CSC. Ms. Swain demonstrated various functions of the Bitrix24 site and how it could help productivity and task management. Mr. Sovich recommends using this platform for internal communication amongst CSC members in the future. He added that if he can find the time, then he will also contribute to the site.

5) SUSTAINABILITY SPEAKER NOMINATIONS

Ms Finley led discussion about possible speakers. Potential speakers she proposed included: Andrew Winston, Jonathan F. P. Rose, Mindy S. Lubber, William McDonough, Paul Hawken, James Gustave Speth, and Van Jones.

Ms Meredith noted that these speakers will likely be out of a feasible price range. She recommends looking to local green leaders as possible speakers. Chair McCollum recommended that the CSC complete the process of selecting and securing its first speaker, in order to announce the speaker in the CSC's first progress report to City Council in the future.

6) INCIDENTAL ITEMS:

- A. **ITEMS FROM CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR** – Ms Finley led discussion of when the CSC should schedule their bi-annual updates to the City Council, and what format this update should take. She requested staff to provide information about the City Council meeting schedule in order to identify an appropriate timeline for preparing the update.

Ms Finley stated that she would not be able to attend the regularly scheduled CSC meeting in January and asked if the other members wanted to change the meeting date, or hold the meeting without her. The CSC decided to change the 2017 meeting schedule so that official meetings are held during "even numbered months." Accordingly, January will be a working meeting and February will be the first official meeting of 2017.

- B. **ITEMS FROM CSC MEMBERS** - N/A

- C. **ITEMS FROM PUBLIC** - N/A

D. ITEMS FROM STAFF - N/A

7) **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ABSENCES**

Mr. McCollum stated that Ms Mansell was recently injured in an automobile collision, and is recuperating at home. Accordingly, her absence is excused.

8) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.