

Meeting Minutes - Draft SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

Monday, March 9, 2009	4:00 PM	215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
		Room 300 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m.

Present: 12 -

Satya V. Rhodes Conway; Judy Compton; Sherrie Gruder; Michael J. Vickerman; Paul D. Muench; Catherine E. Mackin; David W. Drummond; Garrick R. Maine; David C. Boyer; Lou W. Host-Jablonski; Peter J. Taglia and Marc B. Kornblatt

Excused: 3 -

William Bremer; Lance T. McGrath and Leslie C. Schroeder

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lance McGrath and Peter Muench need to be removed from present. Marc Kornblatt was not yet a member at that meeting. The minutes were then approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeanne Hoffman gave updates on TIF Policy and the Northeast Neighborhood Resolution. Satya Rhodes-Conway also provided an update regarding EECBG funds and other possible programs. Committee members asked to also get an update on the outdoor wood boiler resolution.

OLD BUSINESS

12003 Residential Energy Upgrades: opportunities and options - by Sherrie Gruder

Sherrie Gruder introduced the subject of upgrading of energy efficiency in residential buildings and referenced the materials attached to the addenda.

Judy Compton emphasized that Point of Sale policies were burdensome on sales in a very poor market today and that we should be careful not to cause homebuyers to flee to outlying areas. There was some discussion.

Satya Rhodes-Conway stated that point of sale requirements are more difficult in down market but that we should consider initiatives to address two problems: lack of capital for owners and lack of knowledge.

Judy Compton wanted the committee to consider additional standards, codes or information instead of point-of-sale requirements.

Paul Muench thinks that this subject should be on our agenda, absolutely, given the amount of energy wasted in buildings. He agrees with Satya's comments (capital and knowledge) and thinks we should consider codes and information as the way to go.

David Boyer asked a process question: "This discussion is not fruitful but we should go back to goals of committee and look at a blueprint or range of ideas instead of one specific idea? Get a blueprint and come up with the things we want?"

NEW BUSINESS

13906 Review of Building a Green Capital City Plan and Development of Workplan for 2009 (attached http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/documents/GreenCapitalReport 1.pdf)

Sherrie Gruder introduced the new topic: Building A Green Capital City Blueprint from 2004. We need to revisit the blueprint.

The two major goals are:

1) Establish a Madison Sustainable City Program,

2) Madison's GREEN Commitment for Green Building, Resource & Energy Efficient Environment). The City has implemented and exceeded some of the recommendations, thus an update is warranted just on these grounds.

David Boyer suggested that the committee look at the plan, the vision, and the goals and identify what needs to change.

Sherrie Gruder indicated that the City has made significant progress in implementing the first goal by establishing the Facilities and Sustainability Program, the Natural Step process applied to staff, etc.

Garrick Maine suggested that we need more part of "A" in the blueprint; a graduated standard and measurement are needed. TNS doesn't necessary tell us what we need to measure; this is what he's finding in his own offices.

Sherrie Gruder reviewed the major points under Goal One.

Peter Taglia indicated that he was concerned that we are missing a number of initiatives and there is no good way to see which are the most effective. For carbon footprints, the bus fare raise is a good example. A lot of extra carbon will be emitted because the fares are increased to raise \$600,000. The cost per ton of this move is likely much lower than other initiatives that cost the city money, such as solar panels.

Sherrie Gruder indicated that we needed to consider indicators of sustainability. Some of these will be qualitative and others will be quantitative. A variety of options could be on the table. David Boyer suggested that we adopt a measurable goal that requires updates in the state of environment report.

Sherrie Gruder begins the overview of the second major goal. Not sure if the City met goal of A1, sub 2. Sherrie asked staff about whether the City met the goal to reduce energy use by 10% by 2010? Sherrie then gave examples of the buildings that have successfully met LEED, such as Monona Terrace. Sherrie asked staff about the Senior Center? Because of the goal, the City has new procedures for evaluating overall energy use (old system had each department acquiring their own lighting-now there is a facilities lighting policy, also for pumps, etc.) and there is funding through Facilities Management.

Garrick Maine wondered about the process for green upgrades and if the process is based on need or earmark.

Sherrie Gruder provided update on the criteria and unique situations such as why the Monona Terrace was chosen over the City building (prominence, ability to attract more traffic, etc.). The Mayor has \$100,000 in the budget for solar PV. Sherrie also asked staff what the rapid payback upgrades are that have been done?

Pete Taglia asked should there be an evaluation of how emissions correlate with energy use? For example, the goal identifies lowering peak demand in the Plan, but in Wisconsin peak demand is, ironically, cleaner than base load demand because Wisconsin is very coal dependent. As a result, peak demand is met with much cleaner natural gas generation.

Michael Vickerman wanted to know about solar water heating utility and indicated that right now the State doesn't have process yet, but we should know soon if a State contract is signed. He also indicated that we should utilize high demonstration value RE projects, but wondered what criteria will be used?

Sherrie Gruder indicated that for PV visibility is a major focus, such as Olbrich Gardens being chosen for solar electric canopy based on visibility.

A2 Impact New City Buildings. Everyone agreed these recommendations are mostly being met. A3, sub 1, second bullet on shifting budget focus from first cost to lifecycle.

Garrick Maine asked if lifecycle costs are done to support green building? Now that the energy monitoring systems are in place, is there a feedback loop to ensure that the data is used for continuous improvement?

A3, sub 2 is about developing cost effective green building. Can this be continued, expanded and reported back?

A3, sub 3 measures progress by City and the need to develop a standard annual report outline.

David Boyer suggested that the challenge for us is to have a much shorter report. More manageable size should be a goal, perhaps 15 pages with appendices.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.