

**MINUTES
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, February 10, 2009 6:00 p.m.
Hooker Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

Roll Call:

Members Present: John Hamilton, Cynthia Schultz, Paul Schneller, Laura Kamp, Jim Sherman, Toby Strout, Dave Rollo

Regrets: George Huntington

Staff Present: Adam Wason

Call to Order/Approval of Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

Corrections to the minutes from December of 2008 and January of 2009 were made and the minutes were approved by general consent.

Public Comment:

Brian Drummy of Leadership Bloomington Monroe County 2009 is working on a project in regards to Alternative Transportation. This group is looking at commuting patterns and to implement current plans of biking to and from work or other obligations. Paul Schneller recommended that the group speak to Bloomington Transportation Options for People. The workgroup has a community sponsor through the City of Bloomington Planning Department.

Announcements:

Laura Kamp announced that Green Drinks will take place on February 18, 2009 at Upland Brewing Company with the simple purpose of a network opportunity for those individuals involved in the sustainability movement.

Toby Strout spoke about the Middleway House greening of the New Wings event on Thursday February 6th at First United Methodist Church. This new “green” facility at the former Coca Cola plant will have several sustainable features including rooftop gardens and permaculture, natural landscaping, composting and other features. The purpose of this meeting was to utilize the expertise in the community in an innovative way.

Adam Wason spoke about Mayoral appointments to the commission. Melissa Clark and Dan Killion have been appointed and will be in attendance at the March meeting of BCOS. Adam also spoke about the City’s Team Process Projects on vehicle acquisition, purchasing, recycling and utility consumption. Adam stated that he would present the final report to the commission once finalized.

Adam also spoke about the Green Building Ordinance going forward in March this year and that he will also be speaking to the Democrat Women’s Club on February 17th.

John Hamilton spoke about the stimulus package and how the City will approach this money when available. Adam did mention that City is looking at projects in the areas alternative transportation, road projects, the redundant water line from the Monroe Water Treatment Plant, and green building. Adam also mentioned that a meeting with Mayor Kruzan should take place in the next few weeks.

Dave Rollo spoke about Council appointments to BCOS. Paul will be officially reappointed on February 18th and other appointments will be made on February 25th. Dave also requested time on the next agenda to speak about alternative energy use at the Monroe Water Treatment Plant.

Cynthia spoke about efforts between the City of Bloomington and Indiana University to create a Sustainability Clearinghouse. Cynthia feels like this will be an obvious relation with the Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Report.

Discussion of 2009 Planning and Priorities

Paul opened up the conversation and explained what the numerical values of the priorities document meant. Toby stated that she was unable to complete the priorities document because of the way BCOS has operated without a focused intent or priority.

John stated that the purpose was to generate a ranked list of priorities and what we should be taking on in the coming months. Paul wanted to offer Toby support in making headway in determining what BCOS is all about in terms of a conceptual framework and in terms of what the City should be doing on the sustainability front.

Cynthia proposed that we have both short and long term needs and agrees with Paul and Toby in their long-term goals for the commission. She stated that the meeting with the Mayor will be an indication to what the administration feels are important alignments with the Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Report Framework as a guiding document.

By looking at both the priorities document and the STAR Framework there are clear indications that the top priorities line up with the framework well. Cynthia feels that the short term advisory goals and role outlined in the ordinance should be carried out.

Jim commented that in the priorities document range in the level of vagueness and specificity. Jim talked about the conceptual framework and how you move from the framework to the practical everyday initiatives of the commission.

Cynthia spoke about how the powers and duties of the ordinance outline what the commission should be doing on a regular basis.

Toby spoke about how the whereas phrases of the ordinance are the conceptual framework outlines what we should do with the report, initiatives and efforts of the commission.

Paul outlined how his proposed conceptual framework does meet the wording in the ordinance.

Dave also spoke of how the STAR report is how we go about outlining what the commission should do. He stated that there are a lack of resources for BCOS and that as a volunteer commission the data of the STAR should be provided by staff and interns so that the commission can than take on the advisory role it was intended to fill.

Laura spoke to the need of defining the roles of the various commission members and that the STAR has been a good document for this.

John did speak to the outreach efforts of the commission to get public input on what BCOS should do. He stated that the ordinance does specifically outline that initiatives should be part of what the commission does. He stated that there are actual projects listed in the priorities document that can be implemented.

Jim stated that he would like to see four workgroups to work on a conceptual framework tied to the mission of , transportation summit, enacting volume pricing for water, and a final group to get a retreat formalized.

Cynthia, George, and Jim will work to get a four hour retreat scheduled in the coming months.

Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Report

The committee has been meeting regularly and is making good progress on the collection of data for the listed indicators. Amendment A to the minutes will be the current edition of the Proposed Framework for the 2009 Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Report.

John spoke of the lack of education indicators in this years report. Committee members for the STAR spoke about the lack of individuals to conduct the process of retrieving and analyzing data on education indicators.

Cynthia spoke about the interrelation of our priorities, matrix measures, and the ordinance that created BCOS.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting of the City of Bloomington Commission on Sustainability will take place on March 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the McCloskey room of City Hall.