

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, January 12, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Roll Call:**

Members Present: Cynthia Schultz, Bill Brown, Dan Killion, Andy Davis, Matt Laherty, Melissa Clark, Jim Sherman, Toby Strout, Paul Schneller, Bill Brown, Dave Rollo

Regrets: George Huntington

Staff Present: Adam Wason, Jeff Holabaugh

**Call to Order/Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

**Public Comment**

Committee welcomed members of public.

**Announcements**

Andy mentioned possibility for sustainability column ("Down To Earth") submissions in HT. Adam informed the commission that the City is moving forward with interview process for the Sustainability Coordinator. Paul and Jim feel a councilperson or BCOS member should be a part of the interview process. Adam does not know of a precedent that has included others in the interviewing process for City positions. Paul put forth a motion to ask the Mayor for representation in the interviewing process for sustainability coordinator position. Jim seconds the motion. Motion carried 6-3. Dave feels that representation is a warranted because of the close working relationship BCOS will have with the Sustainability Coordinator position. Andy suggested that BCOS submit criteria or qualifications the Commission would like the Coordinator to have.

**Approval of Minutes: November, December 2009**

Minutes approved by general consent.

**Approval of Officers for 2010**

Matt will assume George Huntington's position as Vice-Chair of BCOS.

**2009 Sustainability Themes Discussion**

Cynthia feels the purpose of these proposed themes is to coordinate discussions among those working with sustainability issues; also, education and awareness to the public. Adam feels that the thematic approach is a step in the right direction to coordinate with the various groups working on sustainability issues in the community. Paul would like to see these prioritized in order to develop a strategic plan for BCOS and the community. Dave informed the commission that Council will be looking into expansion of the water plant in March or April and

feels that water theme should be coordinated with that discussion. Dave also suggested incorporating the "food" theme with the Michael Pollan talk on February 26th. Cynthia informed the commission that Bloomingfoods requested moving "food" to April to coordinate with Earth Week. Paul asked if it would be possible to appoint a "coordinator" for each monthly theme. Bill suggested incorporating a "color-coded" system (food is green, energy is yellow, etc) to denote the various topics. Bill informed the Commission that Dr. Brian J. Soden, a member of the IPCC and a Nobel Laureate is coming to IU on January 20th to speak about climate issues. Bill informed the Commission that IU would like to incorporate their calendar of events with other sustainability event calendars.

#### **Discussion of Sustainability Newsletter**

Cynthia informed the Commission that the Communications Working Group hopes to complete the first newsletter, "Sustainability Network" by the end of January or beginning of February.

#### **Committee Reports**

Matt informed the Commission that the water committee feels that Bloomington is approaching the end of its capacity to provide water to the community. Matt feels that conservation will help but it is absolutely necessary to expand the water plant.

Paul requested a motion to set strategic planning session by March to send to the Sustainability Coordinator. Adam feels it necessary to incorporate the Coordinator when putting together a strategic plan. Commission will attempt to identify a date in March to discuss a strategic plan; tentatively the March 9<sup>th</sup> BCOS meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned 7:38 pm.

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, February 18, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Roll Call:**

Members Present: Cynthia Schultz, Bill Brown, Andy Davis, Paul Schneller, Ted Mendoza, Maggie Sullivan, Toby Strout, Melissa Clark, George Huntington

Regrets: Dave Rollo, Jim Sherman, Matt Laherty, Dan Killion

Staff Present: Adam Wason, Jeff Holabaugh

**Call to Order/Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. January minutes approved with general consent with one correction noted.

**Public Comment**

Cynthia welcomed members of the public.

**Announcements**

Adam informed the commission that Dan Killion has chosen to step down from his position on the commission. Adam discussed the interview process for the Sustainability Coordinator position and noted that the procedure has followed a professional HR process for interviewing the candidates. In the event of a "tie" between candidates, there has been mention of a possible social or open event to move forward with the interview process. Bill discussed a similar procedure that IU used when hiring for its sustainability coordinator. Paul feels a form of interaction between the candidates and commission would be helpful. To this end, several options were put forth: separate nights for candidates to meet with BCOS and others, varying amounts of time, etc. It was suggested that if the event moves forward, a copy of questions be circulated among commission, possibly resumes, etc. Cynthia reiterated that ultimately, the Mayor will have final say. Bill mentioned the debut of Zipcar, a car sharing service, and Zimride, a ride sharing software funded by the IU Student Association, on campus. Maggie discussed the Trash and ReFashion Show February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Convention Center, a benefit for The Center For Sustainable Living. Cynthia discussed presentation February 11<sup>th</sup>, IMU Dogwood Room 9-11pm. Michael Pollan will be speaking at IU February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Introduction of new members** – Ted Mendoza, Maggie Sullivan

**Recap of meeting with Mayor Kruzan**

Mayor Kruzan welcomed input from the commission but stated that the commission will not be a formal part of the interview process for Sustainability Coordinator position. Matt Laherty was introduced to the Mayor. The Mayor

supported the idea of strategic workshop. Mayor received the draft of Water Committee's report. Energy, peak oil taskforce, green building, transportation and food committees were all brought to the Mayor's attention.

### **2010 Strategic Planning Session Discussion**

Cynthia has identified Brenda Bailey-Hughes as a possible facilitator for this discussion. Approximately a four hour discussion was suggested in a previous meeting. Commission discussed 3-7 p.m., 5-9 p.m., etc. Paul would like to see an outline or agenda prior to the meetings which would outline what was to be discussed/the process. Brenda has mentioned wanting to meet with a planning group prior to the discussion. Paul feels the group should discuss whether a small-group meeting is worthwhile. George feels that a preliminary meeting is common and helpful in these strategic planning situations. Toby is on-record as being opposed to paying someone to facilitate a meeting for this commission. Paul agrees that it is not necessary to pay someone to facilitate. George feels facilitators can be very worthwhile in these types of situations. Members of the commission feel it is necessary to discuss whether a paid facilitator is needed. Andy would prefer an April meeting if possible. Several members agree.

### **Further Discussion of Themes – Sustainability Network Newsletter**

Three bundled themes will be put out in the first round of newsletters. Ted discussed the Sustainability Network Newsletter as being an informational resource that is not intended to be an organization in and of itself. It will act as "the glue" that binds various local groups working on sustainability issues. The local branch of the USGBC will be assuming the cost of administering this list-serve for this year.

### **Committee Reports**

Cynthia informed commission of tour of water plant, involving Dave Rollo, Matt Laherty. Ted, Bill, and Melissa all showed interest in participating. Paul is interested taking part in discussion with Steve Volan and Cynthia to discuss STAR. Green Drinks is offering sponsorships this year again. The Water Committee is working with a marketing class in the IU Kelley School of Business to come up with frameworks for communicating the results of research that BCOS conducts. Green Building Committee has another home tour scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup>. Ted informed the commission that the local USGBC has scheduled programs for a week following Earth Day. Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, a Film Festival will take place at the Monroe County Library Auditorium. Monday the 19<sup>th</sup>-Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> has speakers and panels scheduled to discuss green building issues like construction, gardening, landscaping, etc. On April 24<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm in the Library Auditorium, Nancy Hiller will be speaking on the topic of energy conservation designs in 100-year old homes. Ted would like feedback from the Commission to see how USGBC calendar coordinates with other sustainability group's schedules, etc. Bill discussed that the ten days prior to Earth Day will see presentations at IU discussion sustainability issues. Cynthia noted a LEED GA prep class taking place on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. Contact Dave Gulyas for more information.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, March 9, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Cynthia Schultz, Bill Brown, Andy Davis, Ted Mendoza,  
Maggie Sullivan, Melissa Clark, Dave Rollo

Regrets: Jim Sherman, Toby Strout, Matt Laherty, Paul Schneller,  
George Huntington

Staff Present: Jeff Holabaugh

**Call to Order/Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. February minutes approved with general consent.

**Public Comment**

Cynthia welcomed members of the public.

**Announcements**

Melissa discussed service learning opportunities through her sustainability class. Dave congratulated Maggie on her recognition as an Emerging Community Leader, as recognized by the Bloomington Commission on The Status of Women. "Transition Bloomington" is part of a global transition network, themed in rebuilding community self-reliance in the face of peak-oil and global climate change and has announced the "Great Unleashing" on April 24th at City Hall. Dave attended a community orchard meeting, put together by Amy Countryman. The City will sponsor a community orchard, with land for approximately 40 trees. Over 120 people attended the meeting and many called for more than one orchard. Council will look to areas of City property where more orchards could be placed. University has donated approximately \$250,000 for pedestrian-friendly re-engineering of intersection at the corner of Henderson and Atwater and there is also an effort to include a bike-lane. Bill informed commission that e-waste days are scheduled for April 8-10th at the stadium. Info can be found on IU Office of Sustainability website. All the e-waste is recycled or repurposed (832,000 pounds of e-waste recycled last year).

**Sustainability Coordinator Hiring Update**

Two finalists have been identified out of 72 applicants. The City is working to coordinate final interview schedules with the candidates.

**May 11th Planning Session Discussion**

Matt has identified Michelle Cole from Visage, a local IT firm that is willing to facilitate the meeting for free. The plan is to gather at 3, begin the meeting at 3:30 and adjourn by 8.

Maggie and Ted recommend having everyone come in with a list of goals/priorities, what everyone is working towards in order to help identify the interests of each commission member and how to channel that into goals. Dave would like to see BCOS have some advocacy toward legislation at the local level and feels the unified development ordinance is an area that BCOS could get involved. Dave feels that our built environment is an area that contributes greatly to our "footprint" and would like a representative of BCOS to be at planning meetings in order to contribute a "sustainable" perspective and feels the Sustainability Coordinator may have an opportunity to act on behalf of BCOS at Planning Commission meetings. Andy feels there may be a disconnect between the incentives offered to developers and the environmental benefits (i.e., a good recycling program may not be enough to off-set the costs of 100 more units).

### **Committee Reports**

STAR committee recommends to the Commission that they do not produce a full STAR this year due to new Sustainability Coordinator, resource constraints, etc and recommends a biannual full reporting. STAR asks for feedback from the Commission. Commission shows no objection. Cynthia congratulates the Green Networks newsletter on their first publication. Transportation committee hopes to tackle smaller policy issues will allow the committee to focus efforts and accomplish smaller policy goals. Transportation committee is interested in a form of "bike-share" program. IUSA is also working on developing a similar program. Andy is personally interested in working with crosswalk issues in the City. Dave would like to work towards a unified County, City, University plan for transportation. Dave also feels that covered bike racks and bus shelters are issues that the Transportation committee could work on. Green Building series has events scheduled during Earth Week April 17th-April 25th and is firming up the schedule. Green Building will partner with other groups for tree and native plant giveaways, etc. Panel discussion on weatherization may be broadcast on local television.

### **Water Report Presentation**

Matt has determined that water utility could save approximately \$25,000 (10% energy savings) by focusing on energy management. The marketing/communication project is a great opportunity to focus the public on water conservation. It is recommended to expand plant to meet existing capacity demand (see presentation slides for specifics). The plant is currently operating at full capacity and there is no buffer in the system. Conservation and expansion are recommended. 95% of pump costs over its lifetime comes from electricity and as a result, it may be more cost-efficient to purchase an efficient pump that costs 4-5 times the amount of a less-efficient pump. Dave discussed that to cover current expenses and debt payments, a 22% rate increase is necessary; a 35% rate increase for current expenses and a redundant line; a 47% rate increase (would only effect drinking water) for redundant line, current expenses, and expansion to 30 MGD. Dave feels council would like to advocate tiered pricing. Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission would not permit tiered pricing. An option is to leave IURC. 47% rate increase would be within

range of other similar size communities. Dave is trending towards the feeling that we need expansion. Not all of council agrees and others on utility service board do not agree. Many feel that conservation alone will not be enough. Bloomington uses less water/capita than many other areas of the country. Dave would like people to consider energy security recommendations. If electric grid goes down, we have no smart grid capacity to redirect power to water plant. Matt would like to ask the commission if they feel comfortable with him advocating for a plant expansion, being a member of BCOS but not representing BCOS officially. Maggie feels that a position should not be publicly advocated on behalf of BCOS. Andy feels that Matt is free to represent his personal position on the subject but not represent BCOS. Growth in water demand is coming from wholesalers. Commission would like to invite representatives of Utility Board to attend a meeting. Andy suggested having an off-schedule meeting to discuss issues such as plant expansion in-depth where presenters could participate. Dave and Cynthia feel it is an idea worth pursuing. Commission is open to this as well.

### **Green Drinks Presentation**

Cynthia stated that the commission has been invited to present at Green Drinks (May is the first date open, 3rd Wed. of the month). Cynthia asked commission if it is appropriate for BCOS to present and if so, what the commission would like the presentation include. Cynthia suggested water topic and perhaps sharing podium with new Sustainability Coordinator. Maggie feels it is a great place for BCOS to present but is only concerned about the timing so that the water report is finalized and Sustainability Coordinator can participate.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.



## **CANCELLATION NOTICE**

The April meeting of the City of Bloomington Commission on Sustainability has been cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

## **BCOS Strategic Planning Session**

May 11, 2010

*Facilitator:* Michelle Cole

*Staff:* Danise Alano, Jacqui Bauer, Adam Wason

*BCOS members:* Bill Brown, Melissa Clark, Andy Davis, George Huntington, Matt Laherty, Ted Mendoza, David Parkhurst, Dave Rollo (ex-officio), Paul Schneller, Cynthia Schultz, Toby Strout, Maggie Sullivan, Heidi Russell Wagner (ex-officio)

### Introductions

Began with discussion of why people are involved in BCOS—asked each member to write 5 reasons for their participation to develop an “affinity diagram.”

Reasons for participating:

Help Bloomington become more sust/example of sust

Common cause to drive pos change

Help influence positive behavior change

Business devt

Network w/local

Jobs

Hunger

Peak food

Local food

Local products

Meet needs locally

More citizen participation

Sust lifestyle choices

Reach lowest econ demographic

Break through barrier of ignorance

Moving fwd as an aligned community

Est benchmarks

Concerned about ecol sust

Commitment to living responsibly wrt health of envt

Community resilience

Peak oil/climate change

Concern about credit economy

Green building/housing

Focus efforts of BCOS—big picture to local

Economic vitality—including everyone

Leaving things better than I found them

Low impact development

Create models for sust living

Water conservation

Prevent overshoot/die-off

Community ed on intrinsic value of NR

Infrast for sust living

Realistic assessment of sust of local systems  
Recognize limits and increase comm. Awareness of limits  
Transition to steady state economy  
Coord bt comm. Groups  
Pool resources to improve campus/community issues  
To get to know community

**Mission statement taken from BCOS creation ordinance:** The mission of BCOS is to promote the sustainable socio-environmental-economic well-being of Bloomington and all its inhabitants while taking precautions not to compromise the quality of life of future generations.

Question was raised whether the ordinance gives the commission enough power to accomplish the many goals that listed above.

Also some concern that the requirements to complete the STAR report each year has been a challenge—this year planning to submit an abridged version this year.

BCOS charged with advising various govt agencies/departments/commissions, but the ordinances authorizing those bodies don't reflect that they need to listen to BCOS.

Mission statement from ordinance is broad (perhaps too broad); also is not "aspirational," which some feel is necessary for the group to identify priorities. Aspirational goals might include a statement of global limits, a desire for self-reliance and balance.

Jacqui: new sustainability coordinator position needs lots of support and representation in the community in order to have a meaningful impact. Asked for the group to identify priorities.

**BCOS values:**

- We recognize global and local limits; our current paradigm is not sustainable
- Urgency of changing our paradigm and behavior
- Striving for community self-reliance and resilience
- Energy independence
- Balanced interdependence within the community and the region
- Relocalize goods and services (or re-regionalizing)
- Increased inclusion and equity
- Support for the universal declaration of human rights
- Balancing individual and community needs and interests
- Increased frugality and reciprocity; collaboration and cooperation
- Intergenerational equity
- Diversity (respecting and allowing for differences)

- Recognizing the intrinsic value of nature
- Conservation, regeneration, and restoration
- Knowledge sharing and capacity building
- Knowledge-based action/credible information to make decisions
- Resource sharing
- Learning to live w/in current solar income (natural energy flows) and w/in the regenerative carrying capacity of the planet
- Thrive within our means
- It doesn't have to suck

Vision statement should be inspirational, aspirational, perspirational, and convey a sense of urgency.

### **Action item identification**

Red tags: willing to lead (recommend no more than one)

Yellow tags: willing to lend assistance if someone else leads (recommend no more than two)

Green/blue tags: willing to advocate or provide other minor assistance (recommend no more than 3-4)

### *Economy/employment*

- Local currency
- Public/private (could be cooperative) partnership to develop a manufacturing concern that will employ lower-skilled individuals at a living wage and will not negatively impact the environment
- Create/promote green jobs
- Localize economy/support Local First Indiana
- Buy local program education
- Educate for necessity of steady-state economy
- Pedestrian-only Kirkwood and/or downtown
- Establish micro-loans for sustainable local businesses
- Encourage/develop a full-loop economy that will support cradle-to-cradle
- Find ways to attract/create green business (or inform BCOS in more detail about what economic development is already doing)
- No tax waivers/tax relief for employers w/o real and monitored living wage job creation
- Research and issue statement on focus areas for "green" jobs in Blgtn/Monroe County area (then bring programs here)

### *Food*

- Participate/model after Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution campaign
- Support/coordinate with local growers guild on farm incubator, food distribution infrastructure
- Incentivize value-added food production facility; distribution also

- Coordinate with Bloomington Kitchen Incubator
- Southside or Westside farmers' market
- Identify local govt resources to enhance local food production, both commercial and residential
- Permaculture demonstration projects
- Provide demonstration sites so folks can learn/see how tend gardens—so they don't become an eye sore and discourage others to garden as well
- We need to know how many and type of calories grown near Bloomington
- Many more public gardens; orchards in parks
- Encourage urban farming in city and on IU campus
- Encourage more private, community and university gardens
- Allow animals w/in city limits (chickens and sheep)
- Publicize benefits of vegetarian diet
- Food education—teach people to cook local foods
- Education on consumption of local food
- Teach canning, teach storage
- Home food storage
- More urban gardening programs; Establish "gardening 101" programs

#### Leaders

- Heidi: head up and dev local energy generation and distribution—move away from coal
- Melissa: water
- Dave: Off-grid water production (will tie to energy)
- Matt: Food
- Maggie: promote/create green jobs, organize a sust demonstration
- Bill: provide ed conferences symposia on how to thrive w/in our means; ed contractors on green building and how it benefits their bottom line
- Cynthia: streamline STAR
- Toby: advocate for develop language within city depts.?
- Paul: advocate for city depts. to listen to sustainability concerns?
- Ted: Create centralized web resource for local resources and events

*Focus topics (based on member votes):*

Food

Water

Energy

Green building and water initiatives provide a model for the role that the commission could play—info gathering, ordinance/memo drafting, consensus on commission position, advising/advocating to relevant agencies.

Jacqui will type up where priorities were identified and share with the commission

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, June 8, 2010  
6pm, McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 N. Morton St.

**Roll Call:**

*BCOS members:* Bill Brown, Melissa Clark, Andy Davis, Matt Laherty, Ted Mendoza, David Parkhurst, Paul Schneller, Cynthia Schultz, Heidi Russell Wagner (ex-officio), Dave Rollo (ex-officio), Maggie Sullivan (arriving late)

*Staff:* Jacqui Bauer

Meeting called to order

No public were present to comment

**Announcements**

Heidi: county has been working on stormwater utility—unlikely to happen before the elections

Dave R.: related to the Gulf of Mexico oil spill—estimates of amount of oil spilling into the Gulf have been increased; seeps have also been detected that raise question of whether relief well will actually solve the problem. This further demonstrates the need to move away from oil as fast as possible. Dave met with Rep. Baron Hill, who is willing to deliver a letter to Sec. of Energy Steven Chu. Asked commission for their support. Dave made motion to have Chair Cynthia Schultz sign on to the petition, Paul seconded, motion passed. Dave will circulate the text of the letter to make sure all agree with the wording.

Paul asked for a clarification of roles between the sustainability coordinator, city council, the commission chair

- \*forward job description to whole commission

- \*clarify with Danise and Adam what the org chart should look like

- \*by next month

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from April were approved.

**Discussion of strategy session from last month**

Big topics identified: Food received most weighted votes, also energy, water, housing, other (communication/education/policy advising)

Matt led a discussion of where to go from here.

**FOOD**

Matt is lead on this topic.

With previous water effort, group worked together to identify priorities and interests; result was the report submitted to CBU/Council earlier this year.

Food is also somewhat complicated—Matt will send out list of food-related topics of interest to team members, then work as a team to drill down to what initiatives the group will work on.

Paul also pointed out need to identify the players in the community who can impact this topic—some constituencies may cut across various topics so commission can coordinate. Also a need to look at undertakings that are short- vs. long-term.

Dave R. pointed out that there are windows of opportunity—topics that are coming before council or being addressed in the budget process. Orchards, chicken ordinance are examples. IU—working on larger-scale composting; looking at creating local aggregator to enable local farms to process for large buyers like IU. Some concerns with student gardens since students leave in the summer when gardens are most in need of work.

### **WATER**

Melissa is lead on this topic.

Will postpone discussion on this since Melissa is not here.

Opportunities may be emerging for a coordinated rain barrel project with various departments.

There are also opportunities because CBU is working with IT to reformat water bills. Jacqui will keep commission informed of how this is developing.

Also add MCCSC curricula initiative listed under communication/education/outreach to the water initiative since there is such a need to focus on education now.

### **ENERGY**

Heidi is lead on this.

Distributed energy is of great interest, especially in relation to reducing vulnerabilities in water treatment.

Bill—interested in changing feed-in tariff laws, requiring a statewide system to support renewable energy. Indiana Power and Light has made this available for Indianapolis—rate may allow 7-year payback for large scale installations.

Maggie—would be good to get SIREN involved.

Each group will need to decide what initiatives they want to take on now—for example, “bring back shade trees” was one suggestion, but may fragment group’s momentum.

### **COMMUNICATION/EDUCATION/OUTREACH**

Ted may be logical person to coordinate this since he’s proposing to lead effort to bring info together through a website.

Group agreed to ask CATS to cover BCOS. It may be August before they can get to it because budget process takes so many hours. Andy will pursue this.

Educational events/conferences—Bill is lead for this topic. This is part of his job already, so may not need to be considered as a separate activity.

MCCSC—may be most closely tied to water initiative right now, but perhaps keep as ongoing connection. Paul took on leadership of this component of outreach.

### **ADVOCACY**

Paul, Toby, Andy all proposing to lead internal advocacy activities, so may make sense to break that off as a separate sub-team. Andy will lead this effort for now.

May be helpful to identify specific points at each meeting that BCOS wants to communicate to various constituencies.

Dave R. advocated thinking carefully about how to support elected officials in making decisions that may be controversial.

Jacqui will play a key role in advocacy activities—linking council and commissions and departments.

Better info on what Economic and Sustainable Development does as a department, especially in connection to green jobs. Perhaps add this to list of issues that advocacy deals with.

Local currency is also a topic this group may deal with.

### **STAR REPORT**

May be opportunities to link our efforts with upcoming ICLEI effort to establish a system of sustainability indicators for communities—Jacqui asked that Bloomington be included as a pilot community but this hasn’t been finalized yet. In the interim, we will explore a lower-level update of our STAR report for this year. Paul and Cynthia will continue as co-chairs; will meet with Jacqui to discuss how to proceed.

Also makes sense to pull this out as a separate sub-committee

### **Committee Reports/discussion of future meetings**

Water Committee met—Melissa will lead this, especially intending to focus on water conservation education. Waiting till she is back from maternity leave to introduce her to Pat and proceed forward.

Vision statement—also needs to be included in upcoming agenda. Matt suggested that 3-4 sentences would be an appropriate length for a vision statement.

BCOS received a request to have Transition Bloomington present at an upcoming meeting; we may postpone this until August as well to avoid putting too much on the agenda. We will also need to reschedule the ICLEI presentation.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, July 13, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Roll Call**

*BCOS Members:* Ted Mendoza, Paul Schneller, Andy Davis, David Parkhurst, Matt Laherty, Toby Strout

*Regrets:* Bill Brown, Melissa Clark, George Huntington, Dave Rollo, Cynthia Schultz, Maggie Sullivan, Heidi Russell Wagner

*City Staff:* Jacqui Bauer

*Guests:* Ann Krielkamp, Scott Routen (Transition Bloomington)

**Public comment**

Ann Krielkamp suggested it would be a good idea to have BCOS have a regular column in the Herald Times.

**Announcements**

Paul: IU has created an alternative energy institute. There will be a meeting on Friday to get input. State Room East, possibly at noon but Paul hasn't gotten confirmation.

Ted: Green Network Newsletter—working on 2<sup>nd</sup> issue for late summer. Please send any announcements or articles to Ted if you'd like to have them included.

Jacqui: we need volunteers for Hoosier to Hoosier; she will send details to the commission.

Dave P.: Food committee will be meeting Friday morning (July 16) at 8:30am at Uptown Café.

Ted: Communications committee will meet next Thursday (July 22).

**Presentation by Transition Bloomington (Scott Routen and Ann Krielkamp)**

Ann runs the Green Acres Neighborhood Garden; Scott and Ann are co-founders of the Transition Bloomington movement. Scott also works with Evolver.net (dealing with the spiritual aspects of transition) and the community orchard.

Matt noted that BCOS is in part guided by the Redefining Prosperity report, so there is a lot of cross-pollination between the transition movement and BCOS.

Ann and Scott gave a short overview of the Peak Oil/Transition movement, starting with its roots in the United Kingdom.

- \*Bloomington is the 54<sup>th</sup> transition community in the US. The first to be certified in the US was Sand Point, Idaho.
- \*They shared the Statement of Intent developed by the Transition committee; this was also shared with various sectors of the community before the Great Unleashing, which happened in April 2010.
- \*This process resulted in the formation of focus groups (eg food, water)—Ann will share the document listing these groups. Many of them overlap with the sub-topics that BCOS has also identified.
- \*Have a Ning social networking site, but will be switching to a different site because Ning is now charging for their service.
- \*There will be a meeting on how to start new enterprises related to permaculture/transition. Toby mentioned Seed Corp as a possible resource for new businesses.
- \*Ted suggested that the Transition core group keep him informed as the chair of the BCOS communications subcommittee.
- \*Dave P. suggested that someone from the corresponding subcommittee in Transition attend BCOS subcommittee meetings and vice versa.

### **Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the June meeting were approved with one abstention.

### **STAR Report update**

- \*This year we are planning to do a small-scale update of the report, and the STAR committee would like each subcommittee to take charge of updating the data related to their groups (eg the food subcommittee will track down updated food-related data).
- \*Plan to have each subcommittee report back at the next BCOS meeting.
- \*Teams are also asked to make recommendations/comments on the indicators, if they have any (this would probably not be incorporated until the 2010 report is completed).
- \*Jeff the intern should be available to assist with some of this undertaking.

### **Committee Reports**

*Communications committee:* trying to set up an events calendar and website.

*Vision committee:* needs to get together for further discussion

*Water committee:* are working on a possible costume design for Lil Drip.

*Energy committee:* has not met yet, although there's been a lot of email exchange. Someone from the committee will send an email to set a meeting date.

*STAR committee:* need to make sure that it's clear what we intend to do with all of the indicators

Jacqui noted that the city council has asked for resolution/ordinance suggestions—she will share the list that the Environmental Commission sent to them.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, August 10, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Next Meeting:** September 14, McCloskey Room City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Ted Mendoza, Maggie Sullivan, Cynthia Schultz, Paul Schneller, Toby Strout, Heidi Russell Wagner, Bill Brown, Andy Davis, Matt Laherty, Dave Rollo

Regrets: Melissa Clark, David Parkhurst, George Huntington

Staff: Jacqui Bauer

No members of the public were present.

**Announcements**

IUOS Intern Symposium is Friday, 11:30—still time to sign up.

Hoosier to Hoosier sale—August 21—volunteers still needed.

Bioneers conference—hasn't happened last couple of years. Bill will follow up with Lucille Bertuccio to see if there are plans to revive this in the future.

Green News Network: working on prototype website. Call out for submissions to newsletter will go out soon.

Dave Rollo—attended the Illinois Renewable Energy Conference in IL. Pointed out that Bloomington would be an ideal location for a conference like this.

Dave also dropped off the Peak Oil Task Force Report in Madison, WI—thinks it's important to get communities all over the region to start thinking about peak oil. This will create opportunities for us to work regionally

**Approval of the minutes**

The minutes from the July 2010 meeting were approved.

**Presentation by Brita Pagels, Mike Davidson from ICLEI**

Brita gave a short overview of ICLEI programs and mission.

- Focus on measurable improvements
- Global reach; 600 member governments in the US
- Have developed regional support network
- 3 primary focus areas: climate change mitigation and adaptation, and sustainability performance

How do they help members succeed? Network, toolkits, trainings, policy and communications assistance, decision support, emissions analysis, software

Have also developed a 5 milestone process: inventory, set goals, develop action plan, implement, evaluate

Are working on a STAR Community Index—consensus-based framework for measuring sustainability and livability. Team of ~130 experts, split between 3 pillars of sustainability, working to develop metrics.

Mike Davidson—plugged ICLEI's Local Action Summit.

Q&A:

*Can commission members access the ICLEI website?* Volunteers can use Jacqui's membership information. Bloomington's membership costs \$1200/year.

*How does ICLEI verify results?* It doesn't—it just provides tools so that members can do this themselves. Also aggregate/track findings of members.

*What is the status of the STAR Community Index?* Expect to have pilot version available in a couple of months. Bloomington is on the list of pilot communities.

*Will the STAR Index go through an ANSI-type standard organization?* Yes—Brita will follow up with Jacqui to let her know which one.

STAR will be set up as a LEED-like rating system. Sustainability is viewed as an ongoing process rather than a single end goal.

*How many indicators will there be?* Still in development, but anticipate 5 indicators for each of the 16 categories.

Jacqui shared her username and password with all commissioners; Cynthia encouraged all to explore the website and the tools available.

### **Update on STAR data collection and committee reports**

Melissa from Water Committee sent an update—updated pollutant data from Utilities.

Andy will have transportation data early next week.

- Discussed possibly changing the alternative fuel metric to a rating of fuel effectiveness—gallons burned per rider, for example.

Hoping to have most of our data updated by the end of August.

Cynthia has identified info needed from the city on energy usage.

*Energy:* committee met just prior to BCOS meeting. The 4 indicators relevant to the energy committee were assigned to members for follow up. Will plan to have updates and an outline for their section by the next meeting.

Possible initiatives for energy:

- A tree planting initiative (Andy will follow up with Tree Commission, Urban Forester)
- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy co-op

The group will contact other local groups involved with these topics and see if there are initiatives we can contribute to.

Next meeting for the committee—September 14, 11:30 at the Bakehouse

*Food:* committee met and identified a few initiatives

- Possible food initiative focused on low-income/vulnerable members of the community—eg train people to train additional people; 100,000 sf of new gardens by 2011

Maggie suggested including Michael Simmons in Parks in the discussions.

Dave R. interested in acting on a food security resolution—seed banks, root cellars, etc.

For STAR report—make sure to include source appendix in next version.

Matt also suggested more charts and tables to illustrate the data—asked commissioners to flag any data that would work well graphically.

Heidi also asked members to share any spatial data they have.

*Water:* Cynthia got updated info from Melissa

*Communications:* met to discuss Green News Network; are working with a web designer who has placed the website ([www.gnnbloomington.com](http://www.gnnbloomington.com)) on her server for free. The site will include a calendar and a number of other features.

Jacqui gave an update on her activities, including the Hoosier to Hoosier Sale, coming up on August 21; her work in getting rain barrels for Showers; and Team Platinum (the internal counterpart for the Platinum Bike Task Force).

Cynthia mentioned that the STAR committee met with part of the Environmental Commission to discuss the possibility of merging the STAR effort with the EC's BEQI—possibly creating one sustainability report.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, September 16, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Next Meeting:** October 12, McCloskey Room City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Ted Mendoza, Maggie Sullivan, Toby Strout, Bill Brown, Dave Rollo, Heidi Russell Wagner, Dave Parkhurst

Regrets: Melissa Clark, George Huntington, Andy Davis, Cynthia Schultz

Staff: Jacqui Bauer, Chris Bentley

Several members of an IU Sustainable Communities class were present

**Announcements** Farmer's Market Water Barrel Demonstration: Sept. 18, at 8:30 am and at 10 am  
Simply Living Fair: Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>

Green News Network Call-out for Content: working on prototype website. Call out for submissions to newsletter going on now! Would love to get more student and young adult content in newsletter.

Themester focus on Sustainability: Wonderful speakers will be coming throughout the semester. Robert Costanza will be speaking in early October regarding a, "New Economic Paradigm." He will also be meeting with the City Council and the Mayor.

New Director for the County Planning department—Larry Wilson. He seems very supportive of sustainability efforts.

Looking for new appointees for BCOS. Hope to have a full committee by next meeting.

**Approval of the minutes**

The minutes from the August 2010 meeting were approved.

**Sustainable Communities Class Overview**

13 students will be assisting BCOS with its efforts. The class hopes to help with:

- Analyzing indicators
- Researching best practices from surrounding communities
- Working with individual subcommittees

Requesting that all subcommittees send a paragraph summary of what each committee would like to accomplish.

### **Update on STAR data collection and committee reports**

*Food:* Sent report at Bill's request as to what the students could do to assist BCOS. We're especially interested in local food production. Looking for a list of organizations in the area. With this list, we'd like to survey the organizations to find out what they're doing to use, produce, and promote local food.

The group also plans to pursue an effort to get urban citizens to plant small gardens at minimal cost. This could be especially useful for people with lower incomes.

Jacqui: A GIS layer is being created with healthy/local food establishments. Query tool wasn't working so wasn't able to view details but it should be available for analysis. She also noted that there is a website trying to identify every tree in San Francisco. Could we use a similar formatted map to show urban food production in Bloomington?

Current Goals of the Food subcommittee: Increase the number of acres being devoted to food production, decrease fossil fuels use by limiting transportation needs for food. Only 2% of our food in Monroe County is locally grown. GIS layer on green space does not include private gardens because of size issues. Only measures parcels that are 1 acre or more.

*Water:* Jacqui got updated info from Melissa since Melissa was home with sick family members.

Not quite sure how to proceed because of a lack of committee members. Melissa will meet with the water utility to discuss Little Drip project. Still very interested in working on the project if anyone would like to help, please let Jacqui know.

Water conservation staff position has been postponed until funds for salary increase are available.

County just increased water rates to make improvements to water facilities. Just waiting for approval from the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. A water conservation plan has already been formulated. Water conservation is of grave importance to our county but determining water usage levels using CBU water bills is difficult—this information should be much more accessible.

*Energy:* Met today. Also in need of more committee members. We have a lot of great projects on the table but we need more committee members to make them happen: shade tree projects, energy efficiency plans, etc. It may make sense to link into other initiatives in order to make the best use of committee time.

Working on STAR report text right now. Will also send summary of committee's goals and projects to the Sustainable class.

Jacqui noted that there is still a plan to do an "energy audit blitz" sometime this fall. She is waiting to hear back from HAND and others to work out the details.

Kenneth Cline (member of the public) expressed interest in biofuel initiatives. Although the commission was supportive, they indicated that they do not have enough members to focus on this issue in addition to their other committees. One member recommended Kenneth should talk to Denise about starting a Green Business in Bloomington using biofuels. There are grants available, but it is unlikely that staff or commissioners will have time to pursue one.

*Communications:* Still waiting until we can do more with the website. Met at lunch to discuss creating a Green Network website. The Green Network Newsletter will be the first step and will then morph into the website. Still looking for content for this issue of the newsletter.

Future Ideas for Website: Two-way blog, video and audio feeds, and a searchable resource for sustainable services. We're looking for something simple and that can be searched easily.

Hope to have the preliminary version of the website up by next month and the full version later this fall. Please email [sustainabilitynw@gmail.com](mailto:sustainabilitynw@gmail.com) with ideas and content for newsletter. Also request to receive the newsletter through this email as well. People don't know what's being done so hopefully this website will change that.

### **Other Business**

Chris is finishing up updating a few sections of the STAR report. Will send information through Jacqui as soon as it's done.

Hoosier to Hoosier: It was a great success. We had about 5 semi-truckloads of items that were collected. Raised \$10,000 for Habitat for Humanity and United Way. Just a couple of truck loads were left by the end. All the furniture went very quickly. Had about equal representation between students and other residents.

Platinum Bike Task Force: Met for the first time last week. We're attempting to make Bloomington a Platinum rated city according to the League of American Cyclists.

Met with Housing Authority. Planning design for extension of the B Line trail. It would be great for the NW neighborhoods to have immediate access to the trails by having inlets from the road grid. Maybe having bike workshops or free helmet give aways would help to get some excitement in this part of the community. Need to help make this area feel more connected to Downtown. There's a city employee counterpart to the bike task force composed of engineers and planners as well that has met once so far.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was called and unanimously approved at 7:26 pm.

**MINUTES  
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, October 12, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Next Meeting:** November 9, McCloskey Room City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Cynthia Schultz, Ted Mendoza, Toby Strout, Dave Parkhurst, George Huntington, Heidi Russell Wagner, Maggie Sullivan, Melissa Clark

Regrets: Andy Davis, Bill Brown, Amy Countryman, Dave Rollo

Staff: Jacqui Bauer, Chris Bentley

Several members of the public were present

**Announcements**

USGBC S. Central Indiana Chapter Meeting Oct. 19 @ 11:30 am  
Community Orchard Planting was a great success

**Approval of the minutes**

The minutes from the September 2010 meeting were approved.

**Update on STAR data collection**

The Community Supported Agriculture data was updated and will be included in the STAR report; with this addition we are almost done with the food category. Jacqui will check if there have been any changes in community gardens.

No updates to health care data.

Housing study was conducted years ago (Windshield study) to measure substandard housing. The commission is okay with the removal of the substandard housing data that is included in the 2008 report since HAND said they wouldn't allow substandard rental units.

We are still lacking some of the water data—Jacqui will check if the table in the current version of the report is the most recent. We also may need to clarify the percentage value listed in the contamination report for total coliform.

Sent emails to SIREN to obtain info on the number of on-line renewable energy projects, and are waiting to hear back. Students will let us know if they need help. Jacqui asked that people go through her to make contact with Vectren and Duke. All of the necessary utility data for the 2009 update has already been obtained.

*Committee Reports:*

Food: The Food Committee met a couple of weeks ago to discuss a possible starter garden initiative. The group also did a tour of community gardens with two of the SPEA students and a representative from Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Next time the group will also discuss the possibility of forming a food security council to serve the area. Maggie suggested that the group invite Michael Simmons (Parks and Rec) to the next food meeting because of his long history with food issues in the community.

Water: Met with utilities last week and talked to Pat Murphy about the Little Drip mascot idea. They are waiting to hear about the rate increase (and their ability to hire a water conservation coordinator) before taking on water conservation issues. The committee also discussed with utilities the possibility of adding information on water conservation to water bills.

Students are looking at different examples of water bill design/format. Jacqui is trying to get info on the timeline for restructuring the bill. George suggested that BCOS draft a resolution to the Mayor suggesting that water conservation information be made a priority in the new water bills. Jacqui will find out about appropriate way of presenting this idea. A resolution regarding water conservation on the new water bills will be emailed to BCOS members for their review—plan to vote on it next month.

Because there are so few members we may want to encourage Council to appoint members with a water background to the vacancies on the Commission.

Energy: Met on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>. The group is working on the STAR report, and with the students to research indicators. The new Duke data includes an "Unknown" category of energy usage that makes up a large part of the community's usage, so this makes it very hard to analyze.

The students are also interested in helping with the energy audits. Other ideas: bringing back shade trees and renewable energy. We don't have a goal or vision for what sustainable energy usage looks like. Maybe that should be our next focus as a committee.

The group working on the energy audit blitz met last week, and estimate that they will be able to offer roughly 50-60 audits during this week; 27 of those will be done by the Community Action Program so they will need to meet CAP's strict income requirements. Audits will be conducted the first full week in December.

Communications: The development of the website is progressing, and the group is seeking input—visit [www.gnnbloomington.com](http://www.gnnbloomington.com). Setting up a membership page so people sign up. The second newsletter was also published recently. We will be tracking to see how many people use it. No more meetings of this subcommittee until further notice.

Jacqui suggested that the three committees might consider each setting a goal that could be marketed together with the other committees (for example 500 trees, 500 rain barrels, 500 gardens)—a possible unified campaign that would get BCOS's name out into the community and give each committee a goal to shoot for.

### **Other Business**

Cynthia pointed out that BCOS will need to elect new officers soon. She, George, and Toby agreed to serve as the nominating committee and will propose a slate for next month's meeting.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was called and unanimously approved at 7:25 pm.

**MINUTES  
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, November 9, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Next Meeting:** December 14, McCloskey Room City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Dave Rollo, Dave Parkhurst, George Huntington, Maggie Sullivan, Amanda Figolah, Andy Davis, Bill Brown, Melissa Clark, Michael Beszkiewicz, Toby Strout. Amy Countryman joined late.

Regrets: Ted Mendoza, Heidi Russell Wagner, Cynthia Schultz

Staff: Jacqui Bauer

Two members of the public were present. Emmett Clark. Eric Ost indicated he is interested in working with energy conservation and local issues. He has a history of working with technology, computers, and construction, so would be interested in contributing to the Commission's efforts wherever needed.

**Announcements**

Bill's class presentations will be on Business room 209 on December 2 at 8am. The closing ceremony for Themester will be the following day.

Andy noted that the City has posted the job of Market Coordinator for the farmers market. He urged people to pass this information along.

Dave shared a slide from a recent Paris conference, presented by EIA, showing significant inadequacy of oil reserves in coming decades. This information is reflected in recent reports by the German military and the US Dept of Defense.

Jacqui gave an update on the Beat the Meter Blitz—HAND received 190 requests and appointments are being arranged.

**Approval of the minutes**

The minutes from the October 2010 meeting were approved.

**Water bill recommendation**

Jacqui noted that CBU wants to make sure that any recommendation that BCOS passes doesn't "tie their hands". She also noted that she included the e-billing recommendation in addition to the general bill formatting recommendations.

Dave P. motioned to approve the recommendation and it was seconded by Toby. Andy asked to modify the recommendation to indicate that the long-term goal should be to present usage in single-gallons rather than just "smaller increments."

The motion passed unanimously.

Dave R. asked that the recommendation also be copied to the Utilities Service Board, Pat Murphy, the Mayor, and the City Council. Dave R. asked if we might also send to the Herald Times—specifically to Bob Zaltsberg and Dawn Hewitt.

Jacqui will draft a short cover letter to accompany the recommendation.

### **Update on STAR data collection**

No further changes were proposed. Andy may still try to update the transportation section, but the Commission will plan to approve the report at the next meeting. The report will then be presented to the City Council.

Michael noted that he met with one of Bill's students to share the data SIREN has on renewable energy installations in the county.

### **Committee Reports**

*Food:* Food committee had a meeting about starting a food security council. There will be an open call-out meeting for anyone interested in participating on December 7 at 5:30pm at MCPL. Michael Simmons will present on the types of food policy councils that exist elsewhere.

Maggie also noted that a group is working to establish a farm school to train local farmers. The group is planning to apply for a USDA grant—the deadline was moved to this December so they will likely plan to apply for the next grant round instead. George has a draft of the proposal that he will share with the group if anyone is interested.

*Water:* Melissa has been surveying neighborhoods about the "500 rain barrels, 500 gardens" type of campaign and has been seeing a lot of interest.

*Energy:* Jacqui described a plan to form an "energy SWAT team" to install CFLs and weatherstripping for MLK Day. George mentioned that he has some CFLs left from the "Change a Light" initiative a few years ago. Dave R. indicated that the embodied energy of manufacturing CFLs does not in fact outweigh the energy saved, as some people have asserted.

*Communications:* The Green Network News website ([www.gnnbloomington.com](http://www.gnnbloomington.com)) is up and running and they are looking for input and commentary.

### **New Business**

Dave P. would like BCOS to send a recommendation letter to the Deer Task Force encouraging them to find ways to reduce the urban deer population and change city ordinances to allow fences greater than 8 feet. After some discussion Dave P. agreed to modify the language and to bring it back for consideration next month.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, December 14, 2010  
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

**Next Meeting:** January 11, 2011 McCloskey Room City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Dave Rollo, Andy Davis, Bill Brown, Cynthia Schultz, Janice Lilly, Amy Countryman, David Parkhurst, Heidi Russell Wagner, Amanda Figolah. Michael Beszkiewicz and George Huntington joined late.

Regrets: Maggie Sullivan, Ted Mendoza, Melissa Clark, Toby Strout

Staff: Jacqui Bauer

Several members of the public were present. Jill Minor noted that Matt Pierce recently passed a tax credit for solar installations (IC 6-1-12-26), but that a loophole is being used in Monroe County and residents are not being allowed to apply. Heidi is following up with the county, and Dave R. will ask the legislative attorney at the City to follow up.

**Announcements**

Dave R. shared a draft press release related to the Redefining Prosperity report, highlighting a recent German military report that mentioned Bloomington's efforts.

Dave R. also mentioned a recent proposal for a cooperative housing development that is being explored with Planning. The new development would incorporate many aspects of sustainability. He encouraged the commission to support it—we will talk in more detail next month. Dave P. sent a draft of a possible letter of support to Jacqui, and she will share with others on the commission. Heidi said she is willing to help provide input if desired. Jacqui noted that the petition will not be on the Plan Commission agenda until February or March.

Heidi: Monroe County Comprehensive Plan will be heard next Tuesday, 6pm. She encouraged everyone to attend to show support for the county's efforts to incorporate sustainability concerns into the plan. Final vote will probably not be until January.

**Approval of the minutes**

The minutes from the November 2010 meeting were approved.

**Reports from Bill Brown's class (Sustainable Development)**

Bill split his class into groups corresponding to each of BCOS's focus areas (Water, Energy, Food). Two members of the energy group were present and shared their

proposal to include targets as part of our indicators report (eg a 1% reduction in energy usage, 20% renewables, etc.). The group also recommended a community energy challenge, similar to the effort in Bellingham WA. Could begin thinking about a city/county/campus energy challenge.

Michael noted that SIREN is just finishing its first year-long energy challenge. They are now evaluating the effort, and we may find their experience instructive if we develop a larger community effort.

Bill summarized the efforts of the other groups. The water group developed a proposed reformatted water bill, and educational literature for residents. Jacqui noted that the proposed bill format has been shared with those working on the reformatted bill.

The final group developed a starter garden program.

Cynthia shared hard copies of the handouts prepared by the different groups. Jacqui will also make the powerpoints available to BCOS.

#### **Report from the Sustainability Coordinator**

Jacqui gave an update on the Beat the Meter Blitz—57 audits completed and a good reaction so far, but a need to build this into a bigger strategy to address residential home efficiency on a large scale.

#### **Update on STAR report**

Cynthia noted that we did not do a full-scale revision of the report. If there is no further comment, Cynthia will present this at City Council tomorrow. Jacqui will get the report online soon.

#### **Deer resolution**

Dave P. proposed reversing “consumption” and “destruction” toward the end of the resolution draft that was shared, and that the resolution be adopted with that change.

A motion to adopt the resolution was made and seconded. The motion was approved with one abstention.

#### **Committee Reports**

*Nominating committee:* Cynthia, George, and Toby developed a proposed slate of new officers for 2011. Maggie Sullivan is nominated as Chair, Andy Davis as Vice Chair. The slate was approved unanimously.

*Food:* Food committee held a kick-off meeting about starting a food security council. The next meeting will be held on January 25, again at the Monroe County Public Library. The smaller organizing committee will be meeting before the January 25 meeting to develop an agenda.

*Water:* no report

*Energy:* the committee met and discussed some possible initiatives. Will continue exploring in the coming weeks.

*Communications:* The Green Network News website ([www.gnnbloomington.com](http://www.gnnbloomington.com)) is up and running and they are looking for input and commentary. It has not been formally rolled out yet, but they are asking BCOS members to contribute events and other information so the site will be populated when it is announced.

Jacqui mentioned again the idea of a joint campaign, with a goal stated by each subcommittee. Cynthia suggested that this would be a good way to start off the new year.

### **New Business**

The commission discussed the co-op proposal discussed above—this will be brought to the Plan Commission in February or March. Peter Bane discussed the proposal briefly—they are proposing a unique layout to accommodate environmental constraints on the site, to increase social connections between neighbors, conserve resources, etc. The site is located across from JB's Salvage NW of town. The proposal also has positive features in terms of bike-friendliness and permaculture.

Because this proposal embodies so many of the city's stated priorities, Peter encouraged BCOS to make a strong statement in support.

Jacqui will explore bringing representatives from the cooperative and City Planning to the January meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.