

MINUTES
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Tuesday, 11 February 2014
6:00 pm McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2014

Roll Call:

Members present: Ashley Cranor, Molly O'Donnell, David Parkhurst Andrea Jobe, Maggie Sullivan, Bill Brown, Randy Cassady

Regrets: Cynthia Schultz, Jeff Jewel, Claire Cumberland, David Rollo, Gary Charbonneau

Staff: Jacqui Bauer

Chair Molly O'Donnell called the meeting to order at **6:03** pm.

Public Comment

A member of the public asked whether it would be possible to use crushed granite instead of salt to treat slippery streets. Maggie said she will look into different alternatives.

Announcements

The Co-Housing hearing with the Plan Commission has been moved to February 24th.

The Monroe County Commissioners have selected a greenhouse project (Lettuce Work) proposed by the South Central Community Action Program as a potential partner for the Thomson Property. They are currently trying to work through the logistics, particularly figuring out how to connect the site to utilities.

Annual meeting of the Food Policy Council – participants presented a draft survey on urban agriculture. Dave P. will keep BCOS updated on the topic.

The county will be sending a letter of complaint to various state agencies regarding erosion concerns along the I-69 construction corridor.

Approval of minutes The minutes from the January 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

Presentation about Meatless Mondays: Maria Heslin

Meatless Mondays is a global movement that joins environmental, health, and animal welfare concerns that was created 11 years ago. The program encourages people to reduce or eliminate meat consumption once per week to improve health and reduce environmental and other impacts.

Cities all over the country and the world are participating in different ways:

- Passing resolutions or adopting proclamations
- Offering vegetarian options at schools and elsewhere
- Events
- Education

Maria is hoping to get more local groups engaged in the initiative.

Ashley suggested that the Monroe County Wellness Council might also be interested in the topic. There is also a Healthy IU program that might be a good connection.

The commission will discuss and decide if there is interest in participating in some way.

Report from the Chair

Molly noted that Shazeen Attari's presentation from last month is available on CATS online. There is continued interest in modifying the water bills to better reflect units of usage and history of usage. Jacqui will follow up on seeming discrepancies among individual water bill formats and information types.

Report from the Sustainability Coordinator

STAR Communities progress:

Molly will be working on the section on reducing building energy use – she's switching from the broader greenhouse gas reduction topics.

Maggie and Andrea are working on the green infrastructure and public spaces section. Jacqui just shared some additional resources with them so they will continue working on it.

Randy is still trying to decide on a topic to focus on.

Ashley is working with Jeff on ambient noise and light. She has pulled all the relevant ordinances and made a list of the various things that are needed to respond to the various sections of STAR.

Dave P. is working the community water systems section. He needs contacts to answer some of the questions regarding security of water supply and wastewater management. John Langley and Phil Peden are good contacts for these areas. Dave P. will reach out to John Langley.

Committee reports

Environmental Commission Planning Committee: Dave R. reported that the Bloomington Co-Housing proposal has reached a compromise with the Planning Department regarding the extension of Short Street. The project will be presented for approval at the next Plan Commission meeting on February 24.

Imagine Bloomington: Dave R. will be submitting a statement on growth and its limits to the Planning Department in the spring.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.