

MINUTES
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Tuesday, May 13, 2014
6:00 pm Kelly Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton Street

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Roll Call:

Members present: Molly O'Donnell, Claire Cumberland, Andrea Jobe, Jana McGee, Randy Cassady, Jessica Pittman (new member)

Regrets: Cynthia Schultz, Ashley Cranor, Bill Brown, Maggie Sullivan, David Rollo, Gary Charbonneau

Staff: Jacqui Bauer

Members of the public: Carissa Moncavage, Jayne Piepenberg (Environmental Commission)

Chair Molly O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

New member Jessica Pittman introduced herself. She is the manager at the Trojan Horse, and is a graduate of the School of Public & Environmental Affairs.

Announcements:

Ready Set Grow will be May 24 from 9am – 12pm at the Farmers Market. This will include demos on beekeeping, composting, soil optimization and other topics.

Andrea volunteered to give a presentation on the Middle Way House Rooftop Garden as well as a number of rooftop gardens she has visited around the country. She is available in July.

Hoosier to Hoosier is in need of volunteers all week this week to help move donations from the residence halls.

It's Bikes Month in May, and Bike to Work Day is this Friday. Those interested can register to be eligible for prizes and to get additional details on fueling stations to get free bagels and other items from business sponsors.

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the minutes was delayed due to lack of a quorum.

Climate Action Plan report

Jayne Piepenberg, an intern in the Planning Department, gave an update on the Environmental Commission's efforts to develop a Climate Action Plan. They are focusing on community-wide emissions, and will be making recommendations on how to cut emissions, particularly within city operations.

The next step will be to take the draft to other commissions, responsible parties, and other stakeholders to get input. They are also considering a community meeting to get broader input.

Molly noted that the STAR Communities and Georgetown University Energy Prize efforts overlap nicely with this. Jayne will share a draft of the plan, and we can work together to coordinate.

Report from the Chair

STAR Communities update – Molly summarized the basic STAR Communities ranking system.

Jacqui will send out a Doodle poll to schedule the next committee meeting and share the Google file with Jessica Pittman.

Georgetown University Energy Prize – Molly is suggesting that BCOS submit a support letter as part of the application for this competition among communities nationwide to implement energy efficiency plans.

Some additional details on the Prize:

- 50 communities submitted a letter of intent to apply. Additional communities can still submit an application (due 6/30), so the number might go up.
- There are several sponsors for the competition who have provided money for the \$5m prize.

Report from the Sustainability Coordinator

H2H update – Jacqui reported that volunteers are making good progress in moving the donations from the residence halls to the sale location, where they will be stored for the summer. Additional volunteer assistance is needed all week.

Committee reports

STAR committee report: See above.

Environmental Commission Planning Committee: No report this month.

New business:

Possible speakers/topics for future meetings:

- Someone from the Community Orchard
- IU's demolition of 6 historic homes – this may be moving forward too quickly for the Commission to take a position. Randy suggested that we should look at ways to incentivize reuse (whether of buildings or of components of building). Randy may be interested in leading further action on this topic. Jana will try to identify someone who can come in June.
- Someone to discuss distributed generation (Duke Energy or Hoosier).

The proposed Co-Housing development is going in front of city council tomorrow. The petitioners have asked others to attend and support their proposal.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.