

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 Kreilkamp 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 2nd 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 Kreilkamp)

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 54th 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.

Adjourned at 7:34pm.