

In the Council Chambers of the Showers City Hall on Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at 7:30 pm with Council President Andy Ruff presiding over a Regular Session of the Common Council.

COMMON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
February 18, 2009

Roll Call: Mayer, Piedmont-Smith, Rollo, Ruff, Sandberg, Satterfield, Sturbaum, Volan, Wisler

ROLL CALL

Council President Ruff gave the Agenda Summation

AGENDA SUMMATION

There were no minutes to be approved at this session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dave Rollo congratulated Christine Glaser, who will receive the Woman of the Year award from the Women's History Month Lunch Committee. He said he has known her for a long time as a sustainability activist in the city, and along with Lucille Bertuccio, helped found the Center for Sustainable Living. He noted that she served on the Peak Oil Task Force, the City Sustainability Commission and is very active in the Bloomington Peace Action Coalition. Rollo said that Glaser had been a huge inspiration to him and applauded her commitment and award.

REPORTS:

- Council Members

Rollo noted that Indiana University had selected as their first Sustainability Director William Brown, an architect from Indianapolis who specializes in design and construction of environmentally sustainable buildings. He noted that Brown gave his first talk earlier that evening.

Rollo also reported on Peak Oil and noted that the current economic crisis was related to this. He read from an article written by Robert Hersh, an authority on energy consumption as follows:

The world is now in a period of epic economic chaos. People are disoriented and unsure of what it will take to restore their economies. Many serious economists, financiers and executives are loath to forecast when an economic recovery might begin. It's easier for me now to understand how my parents and grandparents must have felt during the 1930s. But the peak oil problem has not gone away. World liquid fuel production reached a plateau in mid 2004 and has fluctuated within a relatively narrow range in spite of mighty efforts to increase world production. This has become a back burner issue. It really shouldn't be, and we ought to be thinking a bit forward and not be complacent about the fact that oil has declined in price.

He showed a YouTube video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7vGDwGLU7s> which illustrated interplay of supply, demand, and price while showing that even with low oil prices, there is still a crisis with supply.

Rollo added that he was excited about the economic stimulus package that is coming forward and that there were a lot of good things coming to this community. He added that, with the future price increases in oil, these projects should focus on transportation, energy savings, and sustainability.

Susan Sandberg promoted the Indiana University/City of Bloomington 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts Week that was to be held from February 19<sup>th</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>. She said the website, [www.artsweek.indiana.edu](http://www.artsweek.indiana.edu), had a list of all opportunities and projects that met with the theme of *Politics and the Arts*. Sandberg highlighted many of the events that would be held and encouraged all to attend.

Isabel Piedmont-Smith also noted the selection of Christine Glaser for Woman of the Year. She said that Glaser had contributed so much to

the community in the areas of peace activism, sustainability and environmental causes and was thrilled with her selection. Piedmont-Smith noted that Glaser would be given the award at the Annual Women's History Month Lunch on March 11<sup>th</sup>, at which time Anne Reese would also be posthumously honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. She said that in addition, the Emerging Leader Award would be given to Melissa Britton at the Women's Leadership Development Conference to be held March 30<sup>th</sup> in City Hall. Piedmont-Smith noted that there would be other Women's History Month events during March, and invited citizens to attend.

Tim Mayer noted that Robert Richards had passed away the previous weekend. Mayer said that Richards' career was in banking, but he had a special love for children and young adults and worked on the Boys and Girls Club activities. He offered condolences to Richards' family and said he would be missed.

Mike Satterfield noted the work of area resident Ann Marie Thomson and her husband Dr. Calli in the Congo. He said that they were honored with an article in Bloom Magazine, and he recently had seen a short film that they brought back to Bloomington that showed people they had worked with there. He thanked them for their work, and noted that the group supporting them was called *Giving Back Africa* ([www.givingbackafrica.org](http://www.givingbackafrica.org)) and deserved consideration.

Chris Sturbaum noted that before the meeting he attended a "Green Drinks" meeting with a few council members and many, many citizens at the Upland Brewery. He called the attendees an exciting bunch of sustainable people. Bill Brown, new sustainability director for IU, noted that there was something special happening in the community for so many folks to attend this first meeting of the group. Brown spoke of green building and gave examples of buildings that actually produced more energy than they would use.

Steve Volan thanked citizens and customers who had expressed condolences on the closing of his business, The Cinemat. He said he had joined the ranks of folks who know how difficult running a retail establishment could be. He said for 7 years he had been able to create a place in downtown Bloomington where good natured people could spend time attending performances and talking about the performing arts. He said that he was actually looking forward to doing different work now.

Human Rights Commission Chair Valerie Haughton presented their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards to honor individuals and organizations that make specific and significant contributions to improving civil rights. Helen Harrell was the individual recipient and *Voices and Visions: Islam and Muslims from a Global Perspective* was the organizational recipient. Dr. Hilary accepted the award for the organization.

- MAYOR and CITY OFFICES

City of Bloomington Volunteer Network Coordinator Bet Savich introduced her intern, Mercedez McDowell. They explained the *Be More Awards*, which the City will sponsor along with the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, WTIU and United Way of Monroe County. Savich noted that these awards were formerly known as the *Community Volunteer Awards* and the ceremony would be held on April 21, 2009, at 7 pm at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater. McDowell explained each award category.

There were no reports from council committees at this meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

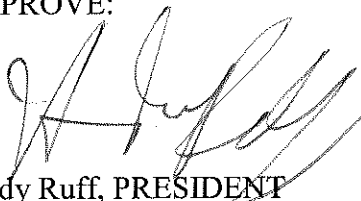
There was no comment from members of the public at this point in the meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVE:



Andy Ruff, PRESIDENT  
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:



Regina Moore, CLERK  
City of Bloomington