



Minutes

Commission on Sustainability

Tuesday, June 11, 2019, 6:00 p.m.
McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 N. Morton

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 - Present: Alex Crowley (Liaison), Dave Warren, Cynthia Bretheim, Erin Hatch, Nejla Routsong, Pam Weaver, Teddie Mower, Chris Reinhart
 - Absent: Gwen (Chair), Matt Flaherty, Jana McGree, Dave Rollo
3. Approval of Agenda
 - Chris moved to approve agenda, Pam seconded. Unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda. Agenda approved.
4. Approval of Minutes, May 28
 - Pam moved to approve May 28th minutes, Cynthia seconded. Unanimous voice vote to approve minutes. Minutes for May 28th approved.
5. Announcements
 - Cynthia: Attended the meetings for HAND's consolidated plan. The first meeting was on affordability, the second meeting was on demographics, and the next meeting will be on transportation.
 - Alex: This series of meetings are used to pull together information to write a later report that will be used to allocate funds for programming.
6. Public Comment
 - No comments.
7. Report from Alex Crowley, Director of Economic and Sustainable Development, City of Bloomington
 - New Assistant Director for Sustainability
 - Alex: Lauren Travis will be the new assistant director for sustainability. She starts on Monday the 17th. She was part of ISDP, which is a collaboration between IU and the McKinney Foundation designed to cultivate sustainability talent with an effort to try and retain sustainability talent in Indiana.

- Lauren Travis: Currently serving as project manager at the Regional Opportunities Initiative. Completed a Master degree in Sustainability at IU SPEA.
- Dave: Will Lauren be appointed to the County Environmental commission?
 - Alex: Yes, she will be a liaison.
- Car Share & Bike Share
 - Alex: We have been thinking of how to increase car shares in Bloomington. Currently it is limited to a handful of cars at IU through an agreement between IU and ZipCar. We are launching a pilot program in the Bryant Park neighborhood, and are setting up at the end of the week before starting advertising for the program. Cars will be located in the Bryan Park parking lot.
 - Alex: Ideally for car share you have a significant sized fleet in town. Right now we are borrowing from IU's fleet to pilot and test the program.
 - Nejla: Is Pace bikeshare leaving the city?
 - Alex: Yes, they left the city. We are looking at bringing in a new bike share company. With a city like Bloomington there is still a bike share opportunity, but that opportunity has to be calibrated to our market a little better. I wouldn't be surprised for e-bike deployment.
 - Nejla: I thought the cost of e-bikes were a limiting factor for e-bike rental/share programs.
 - Alex: I think standalone systems like Pace I think are going to be less successful than systems that are doing at least one other thing. If you can bring bikeshare with something else like scooters, etc.
 - Pam: The new garage at 4th Street is supposed to have a bike docking and public restroom space, what is the plan there?
 - Alex: The garage will have 2 public restrooms, and 50 bike parking spaces, of which 10 are lockers that are covered.
 - Pam: I'm worried how it will work with the homeless population and the bathrooms, in terms of keeping the area clean and secure.
 - Alex: We are looking at having a parking services staff right there that provides vigilance. The area will be well lit and open.
 - Pam: I know tangentially there will be retail on the first floor, so curious what our model is to manage these facilities.
 - Alex: There is a listing of public restroom management models, so we have looked at that. Initial designs going in front of Redevelopment commission on Monday.
- LEED for Cities

- Alex: We have been awarded grant LEED for Cities, new program for USGBC, we are one of the 10 cities who are the first formal cohort of this program. We went to Seattle to attend a meeting there, we have a helper at USGBC and we gather everything and submit everything and get awarded a ranking. They haven't done this with a group have been doing it more individually before this.
 - Local Agriculture
 - Alex: We continue to work with value chain efforts, the local USDA food grant. Had very promising meetings for potential buyers in Bloomington for locally grown food and looking for ways to connect the buying parties with the growing community. It is clear IU is a great partner for this, there size limits how they can source as its hard to contract with many small sources.
 - Hoosier to Hoosier & ISDP Fellow
 - Alex: Hoosier to Hoosier is on its way, lots of work from now until the sale at the end of summer. Applied for Americorp group but didn't get a group this year. So this makes volunteering before hand with sorting a definite need.
 - Alex: We have an ISDP full time extern for the summer, Savannah Rodrigue, to do a greenhouse gas inventory. Project is due at the end of July.
 - Teddie: What will the report for that look like? I think BCOS was committed to helping with that in the SAP.
 - Alex: The report will likely be similar to the previous GHG reports, and we can have her present to BCOS if wanted.
 - Dave: Are all GHG data within city limits?
 - Alex: Some of the data is not that clean depending on the data source, but the idea is to cut it down to within the city limits.
8. Commission strategic plan goals - updates
- Sustainability Indicators
 - Chris: We had a subcommittee meeting and have three more metrics identified, along with further contacts for more metrics.
 - Dave: What are these indicators to be used for?
 - Teddie: We are supposed to give a report to city council each year, and this is just to collect information to see what is out there.
 - Chris: ISO standard may not be a reasonable standard as this is international standard that may not be tailored to a community like Bloomington.
 - Dave: On a county level we have talked about doing some sort of data/metric gathering and tracking as well, so would like to help there.
 - Sustainability Awards
 - Nejla: We just finished this year's round of awards.

- Teddie: We maybe need to do a better job to encourage more citizen engagement for nominations.
- Food Policy
 - No updates.
- Climate Action
 - Teddie: tomorrow this will be finished. The students will be presenting at city council at 6:30 pm, there are a few things ahead of them on the agenda.
- Sustainable City Planning
 - No updates.
- Collaboration
 - No updates.

~~9. Report from Chair~~

10. New Business

- B-corps
 - Pam: When you register a business with Indiana you can register as a legal B-corp, but that is separate from the b-labs certification.
 - Alex: I would definitely engage with the Chamber and BEDC, the certified group would likely be a member of these groups. I think the Chamber had a green business program.
 - Teddie: For setting strategic goals it would be nice to have data and ideas behind it would be better for the whole process.
 - Pam: Let's plan on meeting about b-corps after next meeting for a subgroup meeting.
- Chris: We have some vacancies, and our website for our member list isn't quite up to date
 - Chris: Dave is replacing the previous County EC liaison, Sneha and Olivia resigned.
 - Nejla: I think we were going to discuss attendance when we review the by-laws.

11. Adjournment

- a. Pam moved to adjourn, Chris seconded. Unanimous voice vote to adjourn.

Next Meeting:

Work Session, Tuesday, June 25, 2019, McCloskey Room (#135), City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

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