



Minutes – Work Session

Commission on Sustainability

Tuesday, June 25, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 N. Morton

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 - Present: Jana McGee, Chris Reinhart, Pam Weaver, Gwen White (Chair), Teddie Mower, Erin Hatch, Cynthia Bretheim, Lauren Travis (Liaison), Nejla Routsong
 - Absent: Andrew Predmore, Dave Warren, Matt Flaherty, Dave Rollo
3. Approval of Agenda
 - Teddie moved to approve the agenda, Chris seconded. Unanimous voice vote to approve the agenda.
- ~~4. Approval of Minutes~~
5. Announcements
 - Jana: Been following advocacy for the HIP work requirements amendment. Hoosier Action is going to deliver postcards to Governor Holcomb. Anyone under 60 years old will have to work or volunteer at least 20 hours per week, with some exceptions that also have barriers to getting those exceptions improved. There is a rally on July 1st at 12pm to 2pm at the state house.
6. Public Comment
 - No comment.
7. Report from Economic and Sustainable Development, City of Bloomington
 - Lauren: 2nd week in position, Alex had mentioned we have an ISDP extern to complete GHG house inventory and LEED for Cities grant/program, this is just another indicator of the progress the city is making in city sustainability. These reports will provide a comprehensive look at how the city is meeting or exceeding sustainability goals. The updated GHG report will feed into LEED for Cities and our carbon disclosure. Hope to have that finished by the end of summer, and expect our extern to present on her findings and methodology. This project is the first part of the revamp

from STAR, Savannah and Alex both went to DC to learn about the new LEED for Cities program.

- Lauren: The Year of Food intern is working with the value chain coordinator and myself. They are working on addressing the SAP food goals, such as a food asset map and food insecurity. We will be meeting with SIREN and the Monroe County Energy Challenge to get updated on their current actions. Went to the Environmental Commission last week, interested in having more collaboration across other groups. We are preparing the budget for next year, as a result we are going through and reviewing SAP action goals that have been met and what will continue to be pursued. The initial budget memo will be submitted on Friday. We will have a SPEA fellow for next year, which is another avenue for moving projects forward.
 - Pam: Jacki Bower was working previously on a project, rent rocket. They had done a lot in terms of trying to get data from Duke. This project takes energy information to create a widget that can be added add this to rental website listings to add how much energy is being used by an apartment. This allows people to inform their rental decision. There were other cities that were involved as well.
 - Gwen: What is allowable for us to request as budget items?
 - Lauren: I know the EC has materials that they pass out, and for the year of food we had a film screening, but need to check what the budget is. So if there is an idea for an event then it would have to be written in and approved.
 - Erin: I think the idea about the business certification could be a budget item, including funds for an event/outreach, and/or offset of the cost of certification. Also do you have updates on the waste audit/community compost study?
 - Lauren: I am meeting with public works soon. Composting for the city is still being piloted right now in 4 city facilities.

8. Commission strategic plan goals - updates

- Sustainability Indicators
 - Gwen: I was able to make progress with this, and pursue other contacts to obtain more data.
- Sustainability Awards
 - Gwen: Planning for next year, we should think about the process as we didn't get much response from the public.
 - Nejla: Could we get an ad in some of the newspapers to get a campaign?
 - Teddie: The announcement didn't make it into the HT this year.
 - Cynthia: There are a whole bunch of radio stations that do PSAs.
 - Nejla: We need a really easy call to action. Maybe a box in the city hall lobby with an easy form for people to submit right there. Put it out at LOTUS and other events as well..

- Teddie: I think it's a better chance if a radio PSA is pre-recorded to get attention.
 - Gwen: Maybe to get a prior winner to record a PSA.
 - Food Policy
 - No updates.
 - Climate Action
 - Teddie: This is completed. Wanted to thank everyone that came to support the kids. Was please about how the council questioned the kids. The students felt like it was successful and that it was worthwhile. The students would like to expand YES to help the ESD and sit on future master plans for different city departments. The Tree Commission is getting started on their UF master plan and excited for the possibility of having students sit on their master plan process. The students want to look into carbon sequestration. They are also going to take their project to the county level, and work with other similar groups such as in Columbus.
 - Sustainable City Planning
 - No updates.
 - Collaboration
 - Nejla: I sent emails to the identified priority groups for collaboration. This basically said that we would like to communicate with them more with initially sharing annual goals and current task lists. I didn't send ours since we are working on new goals. After we talk a little further with the groups, we can then decide to what extent we want to collaborate with those other commissions.
 - Don (EC Commissioner): It seems like we both agencies and commission/boards need to have a more collaborative effort. There is a need for like a meeting of commissions to get everyone together. I met with the head of the utilities department and one of his ideas was to have an adopt a storm sewer program, one of the problem with that issue is that some of the waste is potentially hazardous for individuals. There is definitely an overlap of problems, issues, and solutions that come from a variety of sources, that may duplicate efforts.
9. Future plans for BCOS work – SAP Implementation and amendments
- Chris: The city now has a SAP and that document is intended to be a roadmap. We should tie everything we do to the SAP, as the city has already thrown its effort behind those. This is supposed to be a living document, and we could look at what slipped through the cracks to have inclusion in future versions. Find the parts that are not as robust as we want or don't have as hard of targets, champion things that are great, and monitor things that can be monitored. This gives us a roadmap and wind in our sails for goals that have already been agreed to.
 - Lauren: Big focus is to look projects being done that meet the goals and don't meet the goals of SAP. There are a lot of cities that have done this type of plan. Right now the plan focuses on city and public partnerships, and there is room for private industry to be more

involved. Revision of the plan will depend on what comes out from our annual reporting.

- Pam: Relative to our last topic of connecting people, we are not the only cities that have lots of commission that don't talk to each other. A topic we don't talk about much is privacy. The more we collect data and connect things to the Internet, the less privacy there is. There is a dark side of collecting data, but there's way to collect data without stripping individual privacy.

10. Report from Chair – Annual officer elections and review of By-laws

- Gwen: I will be stepping down from the Commission. My resignation will be affective after the next meeting after the elections. In regard to the elections, first the structure has to be decided: chair and vice chair vs co-chair. For anyone who wants to run for those I will happy to assist with the transition. I will keep the Google docs open, so that they can be transitioned out of my drive. We have been advised about open door law about having shared documents, the legal team said we can't be editing at the same time as that is effectively a meeting without announcement. No Skyping in on meetings, can't do proxies, etc.
 - Lauren: I can make a Dropbox or other under a more general email for everyone.
- Teddie: We need the mayor and the council to appoint new people. We will have four open spots, as I will also be leaving sometime after the elections.
- Lauren: I have access to Onboard which is the backend for applications for vacancies. We were hoping to push the importance of attendance for when we interview for new positions.
- Chris: Review of by-laws?
 - Gwen: Everyone should read the by-laws and decide if there are things that you want changed then propose amendments to that. Amendments require 2/3rds vote for changes. We need a quorum to have the elections.

11. New Business

- No new business.

12. Adjournment

- Teddie moved to adjourn, Nejla moved. Unanimous voice to adjourn.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, July 9, 2019, McCloskey Room (#135), City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

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