

Minutes
CBJ Commission on Sustainability
December 19, 2007
Downtown Public Library Conference Room

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Gayle Wood, at 5:14 pm.

Present: Sandy Boyce, Rick Wolk, Gayle Wood, Sarah Lewis, Dan Miller, Eva Varadi Bornstein (new member)

Absent: Carol Anderson, Sally Schlichting, Catherine Fritz, Bob Doll, Jonathan Kamler,

Public: Bill Leighty

II. AGENDA CHANGES

- A. General agenda information: Action items need to be on the agenda published for public information. COS members must get agenda items to the Chair a few days in advance of the meeting to ensure inclusion on the agenda.
- B. To this, and future agendas, addition of “Future Agenda Items” to Adjournment discussion.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of December 5, 2007 meeting.
 - 1. Minutes unanimously approved with the following change:
 - a. To Sandy Boyce’s comments in section V.D.3: the sea level rise mentioned by Mr. Boyce was a worldwide level change, not local. His isostatic rebound comment referred to local conditions.

IV. PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Bill Leighty encouraged the COS to offer interpretations/summaries to the Assembly and public of recent documents published regarding global warming. Mr. Leighty will forward website information to Chair Wood for distribution to COS.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Items up for Assembly action
 - 1. Mr. Miller began discussion about the proposed moratorium on new City-funded capital improvement projects(CIP) recently introduced to the Assembly by Assembly Member Sanford. The following was discussed:
 - a. Maintenance of existing buildings and upgrades to environmental and energy systems is necessary and, when possible, should not be delayed. A moratorium might promote degradation; the postponement of inevitable repairs, often results in the increased use of financial and material resources later. **Issue forwarded to the Built**

Environment Committee for discussion and possible position to offer the Assembly.

2. The recent Assembly failure of the fuel tax exemption program was discussed. Ideas and initiatives of December 5 meeting were **forwarded to the Energy Committee for discussion and possible position to offer the Assembly.**
3. Ms. Bornstein encouraged, when drafting COS positions, the reference to groups, research, information, and documents of authority to back up positions offered.

B. Committee Reports

1. General discussion:
 - a. Ms. Lewis proposed a committee structure in which COS members, only, make up a Committee. Any non-COS members involved with committee work constitute a Working Group. Open Meetings requirements apply to the COS members and a committee cannot meet without a majority of the COS committee members present. For this reason, it is recommended that every committee have at least three COS members.
2. Ms. Bornstein joined the Transportation and Waste Committees.
3. Built Environment Committee report: Committee has not met since last COS meeting. Next meeting is January 9, 2008, noon, at the Silverbow Bakery. Agenda items at next meeting will include: the Transit Center, CIP Moratorium, and recent Working Group research. **Mr. Miller** to propose information and position language for committee to review.
4. Waste Committee report: through Chair Wood, committee intends to track the progress and activities of the local solid waste working group.
5. Energy Committee report: Committee met on December 17. They began review of the Comp Plan Energy Chapter. At their next meeting they will continue this review and discuss the fuel tax exemption program. They will bring information back to the COS at the next regular meeting.
6. Public Information Committee report: through Chair Wood, committee is planning a web site, an earth day event, and a proposal for a Mayor's award of excellence for local businesses.
7. City Operations Committee report: Committee met with the City Manager and received support for creating a working group including city staff from key departments (Public Works, Human Resources, Building Maintenance, the Manager's Office, and Purchasing). Next meeting is January 8, noon, at the AEL&P conference room. Agenda items will include research into lighting upgrade efforts of An Arbor, Michigan, options for Sustainability Coordinator, and start up of working group.

8. Transportation Committee report: discussed possibility of focus on City fleet issues (reduction from City Operations scope) as well as contact with City Planner, Ben Lyman, regarding current City transportation planning. Will propose to Building Environment Committee requirements for planned Transit Center project, for their use in creating project standards.
- C. Information Sharing and General Discussion
1. SEACC is sponsoring local presentation by a renewable energy expert.
 2. Juneau School District has recently released their energy use report, showing positive results from recent energy conservation measures.
- VI. ACTION ITEMS
- A. None on agenda.
- VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS
- A. Mr. Boyce requested future discussion on the following topics:
1. City energy audit
 2. City analysis of tidal increase and predicted effect of sea level rise on City infrastructure.
 3. Levels of toxins in ocean due to industrial activity in China.
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT
- A. Future Agenda items:
1. Information Items
 - a. Discussion of new committee focused on the economy and workforce sustainability.
 2. Action Items
 - a. Committee structure and protocol
 - b. Fuel Tax Exemption position
 - c. CIP Moratorium position
 - d. Transit plan position
 - e. Transit Center position
 - f. Recommendations for recognition
- B. Next regular meeting scheduled for January 9, 2008, 5:00 PM at the Downtown library.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.