

MINUTES
CBJ Commission on Sustainability
Wednesday, October 25, 2007
5:00 – 7:00 pm
CDD Conference Room (4th floor Marine View)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Gayle Wood at approximately 5:05 PM.

Present: Linda Kruger, Sandy Boyce, Carol Anderson, Catherine Fritz, Bob Doll, Jonathan Kamler, Gayle Wood, Dan Miller, Sarah Lewis

Staff: Maria Gladziszewski

Absent: Sally Schlichting, Rick Wolk

Public: Bill Leighty, Bob Bellaugh, Mike Dombkowski

II. AGENDA CHANGES

- A. Ms. Wood requested an item be added to the agenda: discussion of the November 17th retreat.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 3, 2007 draft

- A. Ms. Lewis requested a change: addition of her name as “present” at that meeting.
- B. Ms. Wood requested a clarification: that the election of officers occur at the 1st meeting in January, as opposed to the 1st or 2nd meeting in January as noted in the minutes.
- C. Minutes, as changed, approved unanimously.
- D. Follow up question from Ms. Kruger: what does a member need to do if they will be absent from a meeting?
1. Contact the Chair and/or Ms. Gladziszewski to inform them. Absences are noted by the City Clerk’s office at the end of the year, based on the meeting minutes. If there are more than a certain limit of absences in a year, the member may be asked to resign from the commission. **Ms. Gladziszewski** to follow up with regulations.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Bob Bellagh: Electrical engineer for the Coast Guard. His specific area of interest is the issue of “peak oil” and modeling the effect reduced oil availability will have on Juneau.

- B. Mike Dombkowski: Member of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), Alaska Chapter. He offered to the COS a future presentation on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building certification program administered by the USGBC.
- C. Bill Leighty: Informed the COS about three upcoming conferences that would be of benefit, and for which travel funds may be available from The Leighty Foundation:
 - 1. The ICLEI Climate Change conference in Bali, Indonesia, Dec. 10-11
 - 2. The World Sustainable Energy Days and associated pellet technology conference in Austria
 - 3. WIREC '08, Council on Renewable Energy, in Washington D.C.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. Comp Plan Review

- 1. There was general discussion about the relationship between Chapter 2: Sustainability and Chapter 6: Energy Conservation. Some members felt that the two chapters should be merged.
- 2. Public attendee Bill Leighty gave some history about the split between the chapters. The intent, when the previous Comp Plan was drafted, was for the Sustainability chapter to create and support the “Sustainable Community Round Table” existing at that time. The Energy Conservation chapter was intended to create and support the Energy Advisory Committee. The Sustainability chapter was intended to be the “heavy hammer,” overarching the rest of the Comp Plan. He advised against merging the chapters.
- 3. Ms. Lewis offered that the Sustainability chapter could best serve as the “strategy,” recommended by Mr. Boyce, the rest of the Comp Plan being the “tactics” by which the strategy is implemented.
- 4. Full discussion and action on this item were postponed in favor of a more general discussion as part of VI.C, below.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Sharing reviews of interesting readings or websites

- 1. On November 28, 7 PM, there will be a public meeting at Centennial Hall regarding the Solid Waste issues in Juneau. **The topic will come before the Assembly on November 29th.**
- 2. The following are sites and organizations offered by COS members, as well as public attendees:
 - a) www.westcoastcollaborative.org
 - b) The EPA website
 - c) www.alaskarenewableenergy.org
 - d) Cold Climate Housing Research Center: www.cchrc.org
 - e) Environment Canada (including their Green Meeting Guide)

- f) Associates for the Study of Peak Oil (ASPO)
- g) U.S. Green Building Council: www.usgbc.org
- h) Simon Frasier University: www.sfu.ca/cscd, “towards sustainable communities”
- i) Maureen Hart: www.SustainableMeasures.com
- j) www.dsireusa.org
- k) www.auduboninternational.org/partners/university.htm (University of Alaska Fairbanks Sustainable Communities Initiative)
- l) www.akenergyauthority.org/programs/alternative.html (Alaska Energy Authority)
- m) www.westcoastcollaborative.org (U.S. EPA Diesel Emission Reduction Effort)
- n) www.eia.doe.gov (U.S. DOE Energy Information Administration)
- o) www.nrbp.org (U.S. DOE Northeast Regional Biomass Program)
- p) www.federal sustainability.org/initiatives/initiatives.htm (Federal Sustainability)
- q) <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/sustainability/> (University of Alaska Anchorage)

B. SDAT Committee Report

1. Ms. Fritz reported: The committee met on October 11 and has the following recommendations.
 - a) To wait one year to apply for this program. The application cannot be completed in time for this year’s deadline.
 - b) For the SDAT committee to continue meeting with the goal of considering potential SDAT projects.
 - c) The subcommittee will meet again and report back to the COS.
2. Mr. Kamlen asked if the committee considered other funding sources. Ms. Fritz replied that the goal is to eventually request funds from the CBJ Energy CIP account which currently has \$60,000.

C. Discussion based on the question: What are we trying to sustain?

1. Mr. Boyce started the discussion with the overarching concern that, on a global level, changes are happening rapidly, and Juneau must learn to adapt to those changes.
2. Ms. Lewis agreed and added that, following the models set by cities like Seattle and Portland, the COS needs to begin with an organizing vision, then narrow it’s focus to specific goals.
3. Mr. Boyce indicated the Comp Plan vision (page 10) is available, but has many parts.
4. Mr. Doll agreed and pointed also to the various issues in the Sustainability Chapter (page 18). He believes the COS needs to focus by identifying the following items:

- a) Goals that have already been met (e.g. stream set backs)
 - b) Areas of concern that are being worked on (e.g. solid waste management)
 - c) Areas of concern that have yet to be fully defined and/or put on an action list.
5. Mr. Doll recommended that the above categories be discussed at the November 17th retreat.
 6. Mr. Boyce recommended that the COS focus on “strategies” rather than “tactics.”
 7. Mr. Miller gave the following examples:
 - a) Strategy: about the use and/or conservation of hydroelectric power
 - b) Tactic: COS promotes “breaks” on permitting for those who are addressing the goal of the strategy.
 8. Mr. Kamlen recommended that a “picture of Juneau” is needed in terms of energy use. Public attendee Bill Leighty was asked about the energy audit concept he promoted to the COS at the October 3 meeting, and about what the audit could be used for.
 9. Mr. Leighty responded that the audit would give answers as to the sources, uses, input, and output of energy in Juneau. The auditing of transportation fuel being the most challenging. Mr. Leight offered to do an informal audit, at no charge, to present to the COS at a future meeting.
 10. Ms. Fritz commented that the COS needs to first figure out “what it’s about” and what it wants to focus on. She recommended a mixture of strategies and tactics, both.
 11. Mr. Doll said he felt we would be most likely to focus on what we are each personally, or as a group, interested in.
 12. Ms. Lewis noted that there was a clear interest in energy-related issues by many COS members. She offered that, going back to the concept of visions and goals as modeled by other cities, “energy” be one of the main goals pursued by the COS, but that there may be others that interest other COS members. Examples might be population, economy, and/or food supply.
 13. Discussion followed about how to get from “vision” to “implementation, “or from “strategies” to “tactics.”
 14. Mr. Kamlen commented that there are likely to be “low-hanging fruit” to be focused on, such as building standards.

D. November 17th Retreat

1. Time: 10 AM to 4 PM
2. Location: Assembly Chambers (**Ms. Gladziszewski** to confirm)

3. Lunch: to be supplied by the CBJ, with a request by Ms. Anderson that the lunch be “sustainable,” to support our mission (**Ms. Gladziszewski** to follow up, may request assistance from COS members).
4. Ms. Wood inquired whether a facilitator would be helpful. Ms. Lewis concurred. **Ms. Wood** to follow up.
5. Mr. Doll emphasized the need to have a clear agenda for the retreat, to allow the COS to nail down its direction by the end of the meeting (see Section V.C for some specific recommendations from Mr. Doll).
6. It was recommended that the COS make the Resolution creating the Commission a starting point of the agenda.
7. A further recommendation was to look at each of the suggestions offered by the Mayor in his Remarks to the Sustainability Commission.
8. A final item for the agenda is looking at processes in which the COS can become involved. Examples given were the Transportation Plan and the CIP Plan.
9. Ms. Fritz requested that **Ms. Gladziszewski** help the COS identify other CBJ plans we should know about, such as building projects, purchases, the parking garage, etc.
10. Several presentation possibilities were introduced:
 - a) A Juneau Energy Overview, by David Stone
 - b) An AEL&P presentation
 - c) A presentation by Bill Leighty regarding an energy audit
 - d) A climate Change Panel presentation.
11. Ms. Lewis expressed concern that the Retreat was becoming heavily weighed toward energy issues when there may be other categories of interest.
12. Ms. Gladziszewski reminded the COS that there are two more regular meetings prior to the retreat to refine the agenda.

VII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Next meeting: November 1, 2007:
 1. SDAT Committee update
 2. Set agenda for November 17 Retreat
 3. Comp Plan analysis
- B. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 PM.