

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

Community Development Department 979 San Pablo Avenue December 10, 2009 – 7:30 p.m. (Note: Date Change)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cooper at 7:35pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Tom Cooper Dan Lieberman

Miya Kitahara Suzanne Schrift Caryl O'Keefe

Members Absent: Janet Smith-Heimer, April Yang Others Present: Jeff Bond, Planning Manager

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Approve minutes from November 18 meeting

Approval of the minutes was continued.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

5-1. LED Street Light Replacement Project and other Energy Efficiency Programs – update

Bond reported that City Council approved the project.

Cooper asked about the status of the CaliforniaFIRST program. O'Keefe replied that City Council approved participation in this item.

5-2. City of Berkeley Plastic Bag Ordinance

Bond provided an overview of what City of Berkeley is doing to implement a bag ordinance, including environmental review to develop an ordinance. Albany would be responsible for conducting its own environmental review and ordinance development process. Cooper noted that members of City Council are interested in pursuing this effort, and that this item should be on an upcoming agenda.

Schrift announced that she will be resigning from the Committee, but will serve until a replacement is identified.

6. REPORTS

6-1. Long Range Planning/Sustainable Development Subcommittee – update

Cooper read an email from Smith-Heimer. Smith-Heimer attended the recent P&Z meeting where the draft CAP was discussed. The subcommittee did not meet prior to this meeting.

6-2. Urban Landscape Subcommittee – update

The subcommittee is working on the food study and identifying land areas that may be adequate for growing food. They also discussed how to promote gray water and rainwater harvesting.

6-3. Education Subcommittee – update

The subcommittee is working on Arts/Green Albany Day and finalizing the call for booths.

7. DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

7-1. Draft Climate Action Plan – receive update and discuss next steps for review

Bond reported that P&Z reviewed the draft CAP, with general support for all of the measures. Some of their findings included whether schools should be added in to the document, embedded energy of solar panels and concerns with those made overseas, development of an energy bonus for developments, and discussion of parking. Support was given for local agriculture and adaptation measures. There was a general interest in completing the document and support for moving forward to implement the CAP.

The upcoming City Council meeting will be a study session with a non-traditional format to allow for open discussion of the draft CAP. Roundtable discussions will be conducted to hold general discussion of the draft CAP, similar to the approach that was used to discuss the housing element.

Kitahara and Cooper stated support for the study session format.

O'Keefe stated that the City Council needs background information regarding the draft CAP, and recommended identifying a structure that allows for Council responses regarding particular items related to the CAP. Bond will be preparing a staff report and outline discussion questions. Committee members should attend and work

with individual tables.

Cooper suggested discussion on how to bridge the gap between the ghg reduction goal and the measures in the CAP.

O'Keefe agreed that the gap is a concern, but appreciates the best effort by the consultant.

Bond suggested developing a CAP implementation document for prioritizing and adapting as changes arise.

Cooper added a conceptual question regarding how implementation of CAP measures would be funded.

O'Keefe added that some discussion of quantifiable vs. non quantifiable measures should be held, and political reality of some of the measures.

Public Comment

Preston Jordan – suggested asking City Council to either change the ghg reduction goal or change the CAP to achieve the current goal. Supports the concept of parking permit fees, particularly residential parking. Suggested consideration of purchasing offsets. An adaptation plan should also be considered.

7-2. Albany School District Sustainability Programs – discuss opportunities to liaison with AUSD

Yang reported that she attended recent AUSD Board meetings. Some classes will be moving campuses, and this may be an opportunity to assist in ensuring sustainable building materials/classroom development.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(Commission/Committee/Board Member announcement of requests for future agenda items. No public comment will be taken on announcement of future agenda items).

8-1. Next meeting January 20, 2010 – 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Conference Room

The upcoming agenda will include information on a plastic bag ordinance, finalize comments on the draft CAP, and an update on Safeway and UC Village projects when available.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.