



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

**City of Albany Community Development Department
Large Conference Room
979 San Pablo Avenue, Albany
November 19, 2008 – 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Smith-Heimer at 7:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Miya Kitahara	Suzanne Schrift
Dan Lieberman	Janet Smith-Heimer
Caryl O'Keefe	April Yang

Members Absent: Thomas Cooper

Staff Present: Nicole Almaguer

Others Present: Fern Tiger Associates

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Approve minutes from October 15 meeting (attached)

Minutes approved unanimously. Motion by O'Keefe, seconded by Schrift.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Almaguer announced that the school district is moving forward with greening projects, and Cornell School recently started their food scraps program. Additionally, produce for school lunches is purchased from local farms, all within 90 miles, and sustainable.

Almaguer announced that Committee Members should contact City Council Members regarding reappointment.

6. PRESENTATION

6-1. Fern Tiger Associates Waterfront Planning Presentation

Liz Newman and Steve Fish from Fern Tiger Associates (FTA) provided a presentation on the waterfront visioning process. The visioning process is intended to identify future opportunities for the waterfront, and engage as much of the community as possible in the process.

Smith-Heimer noted that the waterfront is a primary focus of the Committee in terms of long range sustainable planning, and that the Committee has been researching the possibility of wind turbines at the waterfront.

Newman noted that the visioning process may involve particular task forces to examine issues, and sustainability may be part of what is further researched.

Smith-Heimer also noted the importance of qualified economic analysis.

Kitahara asked if the process would include additional impact studies.

Newman replied that there would likely be several areas of focus, which would be determined through the public input process.

7. REPORTS

7-1. Long Range Planning/Sustainable Development Subcommittee – update

Smith-Heimer reported the subcommittee is in process of revising the project review policy for the Committee to review. The subcommittee is also researching wind turbines.

7-2. Urban Landscape Subcommittee – update

Schrift reported the subcommittee reviewed the food policy developed by Kitahara. The subcommittee is also researching gleaning opportunities and edible food production in public right of way.

The subcommittee found that the City's Maintenance Department may not be fully trained in bay friendly landscaping. Almaguer will follow up with Maintenance Staff.

The subcommittee would also like to discuss opportunities for on-site treatment of rainwater runoff. Almaguer will inquire with city staff to determine availability for a meeting.

Meeting Agenda

The subcommittee is in process of researching water conservation practices conducted by Golden Gate Fields, and interested in preparing a proclamation recognizing their actions. Almaguer noted that Golden Gate Fields has also increased the amount of waste diverted from landfills.

7-3. Education Subcommittee – update

Kitahara reported that she gave a presentation to the AHS Connect program.

7-4. Green Albany Day - update

Kitahara reported that the subcommittee is planning the event, and would like to see if other Committees/Commissions may be interested in participating in the event. The event will be held from 11-3 p.m. The subcommittee will bring items before the Committee for discussion. This item will be discussed further with EDAW to determine how to coordinate the event details with the public workshop.

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

8-1. Long Range Planning Subcommittee Recommendation: “Project Review Policy” (Smith-Heimer)

This item was continued.

8-2. Sustainable Food Policy – Review and provide comments (Kitahara)

Kitahara distributed the food policy for review by the Committee. Comments are encouraged and can be emailed to Kitahara. Almaguer noted that this item would require review by the Planning and Zoning Commission as it involves land use. Additionally, funding to conduct the study identified within the policy would need to be grant funding.

Smith-Heimer expressed support for the policy.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9-1. Next meeting December 17, 2008 – EDAW, Inc – Climate Action Plan Update

Green Building Ordinance & Implementation Update – January 21, 2009(Planning Staff)

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.