



**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

**City of Albany Community Development Department
Large Conference Room
979 San Pablo Avenue, Albany
March 18, 2009 – 7:30 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cooper at 7:40 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: Nicole Almaguer

Others Present: EDAW, Inc.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3-1. Approve minutes from February 18 meeting (attached)

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Almaguer announced the city will be participating in the "Renewable Funding" program, allowing cities and counties to join a statewide clean energy financing program. The first workshop is scheduled for the end of April. Schrift announced that the Richmond Plunge is a current example of how a pool can be built with sustainable practices.

6. PRESENTATION

6-1. Climate Action Plan Draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Strategies (EDAW, Inc.)

EDAW, Inc. provided an overview of the current planning process and the draft greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies. A number of strategies were presented including transportation/land use, buildings/energy, waste and water, green infrastructure, sea level rise, and economic development.

Smith-Heimer requested detail on EDAW's peer review of the ICLEI baseline inventory.

Cooper requested a focused meeting to review the draft measures, and requested EDAW provide cost estimations and time considerations for implementation of each measure.

EDAW will provide the updated information the week prior to the Committee's meeting in order to have time for review. A meeting will also be held with city staff to review the draft measures.

The Committee agreed two hours of the next regular meeting would be dedicated to review of the draft measures.

7. REPORTS

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

Smith-Heimer provided an update. The subcommittee spoke with Dan Kammen at UC Berkeley regarding the potential for wind energy at the waterfront. Kammen provided some suggestions that the subcommittee will research further. The subcommittee would like to research funding opportunities to conduct a feasibility study. The subcommittee also discussed developing an ordinance requiring solar hot water for pools. Lieberman will follow up with Planning Manager Bond regarding this item.

Smith-Heimer provided a draft process for the Committee's input to major projects and programs. The process allows for liaisons to the Waterfront Committee, Park & Recreation Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission to encourage interaction between the Committee and these groups on major projects and programs. This item will be put on the April agenda for approval by the Committee.

7-2. Urban Landscape Subcommittee – update

Schrift provided an update. The subcommittee is researching examples of stormwater design educational materials that could be provided at the planning counter. Schrift will also be discussing the item further with planning staff to identify how stormwater design can be further encouraged in development projects. The

subcommittee also provided a summary of items within the urban farming proposal that they would like to pursue. This item will be on the May agenda for discussion/action.

7-3. Education Subcommittee – update

The Education Subcommittee update is included within item 8-1.

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

8-1. Green Albany Day Event Planning

Kitahara provided an update. Over 160 surveys were received from the community, resulting in a number of volunteers to assist with the event. Workshop topics have been identified based on preferences selected on the surveys. Workshop providers are now being confirmed, and posters are being developed by a high school student for the event. Further discussion of Green Albany Day will continue at the April Committee meeting.

Amy Smolens, Strollers and Rollers reported Jelly Belly offered to sponsor the bike valet for the event. Jelly Belly will be included as a sponsor on printed material for the event.

8-2. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy /Food Policy – Review draft (Kitahara)

Kitahara provided an overview of the updated purchasing policy and the resolution.

The item was approved unanimously, motion by Smith-Heimer, seconded by Cooper. The policy and resolution will be taken to City Council for approval.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

9-1. Next meeting April 15, 2009 – EDAW – draft CAP measures

The April agenda will also include review of the Long-range planning subcommittee recommended process for input to major projects and programs, and Green Albany Day. The urban landscape subcommittee will prepare recommendations on projects related to the Green Albany urban farming proposal at the May meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

The Committee packet is available for public inspection at the Albany Library, Fire Department and City Hall. The agenda and supporting staff reports, if available, can be found on our web page at www.albanyca.org.

Please note that if you provide your name and address when speaking before the Committee it will become part of the official public record, which will be posted on the Internet. Agenda related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Sustainability Committee regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Community Development Department, 979 San Pablo Avenue, Albany CA.