

**CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS  
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION (SAC)  
City Building Council Chambers  
Tuesday, September 1, 2009  
Minutes of Meeting**

**Commissioners Present:** Chairperson Marya Ryan, Kirstin Replogle, Stephen Wald, John Marlin, Gary Cziko (by phone), Jennifer Monson

**Staff Present:** Rod Fletcher, Anna Hochhalter

**Absent:** Kate Brickman, Recording Secretary

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**Call to Order**

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Anna Hochhalter called the roll and a quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes**

The meeting minutes from July 7, 2009 were presented. Marya Ryan presented to the minutes prepared by Kate Brickman. Kirstin Replogle moved to approve the amended minutes, Stephen Wald seconded, and the motion carried by a voice vote.

The meeting minutes from August 22, 2009 special meeting were presented. Marya Ryan presented amendments to the minutes prepared by Kate Brickman. Kirstin Replogle moved to approve the amended minutes, Stephen Wald seconded, and the motion carried by a voice vote.

**Public Input and Communications**

Tony Olaivar from Green Light Renovations introduced David Burlingame, who is also an energy auditor. Both gave the Commission an idea of the partnering that they are attempting.

Kathleen Robins, citizen of Champaign County, presented an abstract draft of the Management Plan for Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Champaign County. She answered questions about support for the climate-related studies proposed in the plan.

**Staff Report**

Rod Fletcher informed the Commission that the vision statement that has been adopted by SAC will be forwarded to the City Council for their review and approval September 14, 2009. Other announcements included upcoming sustainability meetings that were open to the public. Chairperson Ryan asked Fletcher if he will attend the upcoming Champaign County Sustainability Practitioners meeting at the Brookens Center. She will not be present.

## **Discussion of Need for Climate Change, Land Use, and Economic Development Projections**

Chairperson Ryan reminded the Commission that their task tonight was to continue the discussion from the September 22<sup>nd</sup> planning meeting and come to a decision whether or not to include a recommendation in the goals that will be sent to Council for their September 8<sup>th</sup> goal-setting session, that being the need for climate change, land use, and economic development projections. The Commissioners discussed various factors such as a commitment of support from the City and other various entities, specific funding amounts, and public buy-in.

John Marlin moved to recommend that the Urbana City Council support the proposed studies of climate change, land use, and economic development projections consistent with the costs being broadly shared across the interest groups in Champaign County. Stephen Wald seconded, and the motion carried by a voice vote.

## **Recommendations for Upcoming City Council Goal-Setting Session**

The Commission entered into a discussion concerning their recommendations created at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Meeting that will be hand delivered by the mayor to the Urbana City Council at the Caucus meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. Kirstin moved that the following recommendations be forwarded to Council; Steven Wald seconded. Discussion followed:

1. Provide adequate staffing and resources to develop and implement sustainability plans and programs, and develop a green team with representatives from all City Departments.
2. Identify opportunities to provide incentives and promote new “green construction”. Research the feasibility of including allowances and/or updates in the City Code to promote green building and removal of impediments to sustainability.
3. Develop financing models to fund energy efficiency programs and renewable energy projects. For example, develop funding strategies for a loan or revolving grant program for financing energy efficient programs.
4. Support the proposed studies of climate change, land use (LEAM), and economic development projections consistent with the costs being broadly shared across the interest groups in Champaign County.
5. Develop and implement a formal water policy, starting with the City’s operations. The policy will be a living document that evolves for use by businesses and residents; and would include conservation, identification of alternatives for clean non-fossil fuel energy sources, costs and potential implementation timelines.
6. Develop and implement a formal energy policy, starting with the City’s operations. The policy will be a living document that evolves for use by businesses and residents; and would include conservation, identification of alternatives for clean non-fossil fuel energy sources, costs and potential implementation timelines.

Steven Wald made a motion to amend points 5 and 6 as follows:

5. Develop and implement a formal energy policy for City operations. The policy will be a living document and will include conservation, identification of clean and non-fossil fuel energy sources, costs, and potential implementation timeframes.
6. Develop and implement a formal water policy for the City operations. The policy will be a living document and will include conservation, identification of alternatives to using potable water, (i.e. landscape watering and other applications) costs and potential implementation timeframes.

The motion to amend carried by a voice vote.

The main motion then carried by a voice vote.

Rod Fletcher added that Staff can prepare a brief memorandum and attach further explanations of the suggested items, if need be, to include with the recommendations.

### **Public Input Planning for Climate Action Plan**

Chairperson Ryan addressed the Commission with the need to identify the types of public inputs that are needed as the SAC develops a Climate Action Plan (CAP). Several members and staff offered ideas for public meetings that included using interest groups, panels, professional presentations, and topic specific input sessions and structured information sessions.

Ryan then asked for 2 volunteers to draft a proposal for soliciting public information. Stephen Wald and Kirstin Replogle volunteered to present a proposal at the regularly scheduled meeting in October.

### **Discussion of Developing an Overarching Sustainability Policy**

Gary Cziko spoke to the Commission on a possible resolution that would include a sustainability component in all projects considered by the City. A discussion concerning the timing of the resolution ensued, as well as the possibility of an additional recommendation to Council to consider sustainability in all decision-making. Cziko stated that he would begin to craft a resolution for the October meeting that could be considered by the Commission for presentation to Council.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 6, 2009 in the City of Urbana Council Chambers.

Kirstin Replogle made a motion to adjourn and John Marlin seconded. There being no further business to address the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

This meeting was recorded.