

CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION
City Council Chambers
Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Marya Ryan, Stephen Wald, Gary Cziko, John Marlin, Rachel Vellenga

Commissioners Absent: Aaron Petri [excused], Todd Rusk [excused]

Staff Present: Bart Hagston, Robert Myers, Kate Brickman

Additional Present: Brad Bennett, Carol McKusick

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Declaration of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. Kate Brickman called the roll and a quorum was present.

Ms. Ryan welcomed Rachel Vellenga as a new Sustainability Advisory Commission member.

Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda submitted.

Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Cziko, second by Mr. Wald, to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2011 meeting. Motion carried.

Public Input

Carol McKusick, 403 W. University, Urbana, spoke to the Commission concerning the City Ordinance requiring haulers to provide commercial recycling services and the downstream recycling processes.

Communications

Proposed Stormwater Utility Credit and Incentive Program Presentation

Brad Bennett, PE, Urbana Public Works Department, gave the Commission a presentation on the credit and incentive program of the proposed Stormwater Utility Program. A stormwater utility is a way to fund the cost of municipal stormwater management services and operates similar to an electric, water, or wastewater utility. Properties within the city would pay for stormwater management services based on the amount of impervious surface area. Mr. Bennett provided details on the proposed credit and incentive program that would be used to provide financial assistance to residents and businesses that reduce their stormwater runoff through various measures.

Commission members were asked to submit any comments or questions to Mr. Hagston within the next week and he would relay them to Mr. Bennett for consideration. The Commission could

consider a formal stance on the proposed credit and incentive program at its regular meeting in January.

Monthly Staff Report

Mr. Hagston provided the November Staff Report that gave updates on the following items:

- Municipal Electric Aggregation
- Update on Regional Planning Commission Sustainability Grant (not awarded)
- Asphalt Shingle Recycling

Discussion and questions ensued.

Continuing Business

Climate Action Plan

The Commission reviewed and discussed the draft Phase I climate report. Various wording changes were proposed, and several ideas for improving the document were discussed.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed 2020 emissions reduction goal, whether it should be on a per capita basis or an absolute goal. Motion by Mr. Wald, second by Mr. Cziko, that the emissions reduction goal be an absolute reduction in MTCO₂E over the 2007 baseline year. Motion carried.

Mr. Hagston stated he would like his student volunteer to come to the January meeting and give a brief presentation on the research he has compiled from various US municipal climate action plans.

Mr. Wald agreed to look at spreadsheets and find a way to graphically present information.

Mr. Marlin and Mr. Wald each agreed to contribute a paragraph to Ms. Ryan for inclusion in the Phase I report. Mr. Rusk will be asked to update his list of emissions reduction measures which are easily implementable.

Mr. Hagston pointed out the report needs to include a recommendation that a Phase II portion of the climate planning process be undertaken. The Phase II would involve working groups exploring in-depth some of the more complex emissions reduction measures which seemed to delay the Commission's progress on climate planning.

Announcements

Mr. Wald announced that the injection of carbon dioxide started this week for a carbon sequestration project on the campus of Archer Daniels Midland Company. The project is collaboration between the Prairie Research Institute, the Illinois Geological Survey and ADM.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

This meeting was recorded.