



Approved

City of Lake Oswego Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes

December 29, 2008

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Jean Baumann called the Sustainability Advisory Board meeting of September 15, 2008 to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. at the West End Building, 4101 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present: Chair Baumann, Bruce (Chris) Brown (alternate); Craig Diamond, Ron Gronowski, Lisa Murphy, Jacob Shimkus, Amin Wahab and Shereen Farhana (alternate). Vice Chair Dorothy Atwood, Craig “Matt” Biggs, Patrick Rowe, and Grant Watkinson were not present. Staff present: Jonna Papaefthimiou, Staff Liaison/Natural Resource Planner; and Susan Millhauser, Sustainability Planner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The staff asked people who wanted to volunteer at a Styrofoam event at Waluga Junior High School to let them know. Chair Baumann announced the Hamlet of Beaver Creek had expressed interest in what the SAB was doing in Lake Oswego. Ms. Murphy announced she had just passed the LEED accreditation exam. Chair Baumann reported she had been invited to present the SAB accomplishments and goals she had presented to the City Council to another group. The City Council invited the public to a January 10th round table forum to help Councilors determine what they should work on during the next two years. Ms. Papaefthimiou distributed an updated board roster. Ms. Millhouse circulated a local newspaper article about an anti-idling campaign that mentioned Mr. Shimkus. Chair Baumann reported she had held informal discussions with Mayor-elect Jack Hoffman and he had told her he wanted the city to be a model of sustainability in the region. She had suggested the first step was to build awareness and find easy to accomplish successes to start the larger process of changing the community. He planned to meet with Chair Baumann and the staff to do some strategic planning. The Portland Space Magazine featured an article about Lake Oswego’s 10th Street bioswales.

PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

REGULAR BUSINESS

Review Agenda

Chair Baumann highlighted what she hoped to accomplish that evening, including identifying volunteers to be liaisons and participate on teams leading various activities.

2009 City Council goals (to recommend)

Ms. Papaefthimiou had distributed copies of draft two of a document entitled “Compilation of input for Recommendations for 2009 City Council Goals.” Ms. Millhouse clarified the correct wording of the “U.S. Mayors’ Climate Protection Agreement.” There was a consensus to accept Chair Baumann’s suggestion to remove a project to convert most of the WEB building lawn to a community garden because of the public controversy regarding the building. The members wanted the City Council to understand that the SAB was not recommending that SAB be the only advisory body to work on all the items on the list, and the City Council should delegate them to whatever body was most appropriate. For example, bus car service might be something that the Transportation Advisory Board should address. The group decided to use the term “car sharing” and avoid using brand names, like “Zipcar.”

Shimkus **moved** to adopt draft two of “Compilation of input for Recommendations for 2009 City Council Goals” with the adjustments the group had just made, including the clarification that the City Council could decide that some work could be shared by the SAB and another board, or delegated to some other advisory board. Gronowski **seconded** the motion and it **passed** by unanimous vote of those member present. Chair Baumann offered to draft the transmittal memo and she asked the staff to distribute copies of the memo and the final document to board members.

SAB Liaisons to City Boards and Commission

The Board had decided to appoint a liaison to each other city board and commission. Ms. Murphy suggested an approach. The liaisons would initially arrange for time for a short presentation in which they would introduce themselves and let the members know that the SAB was offering them support and ideas that would help them think about how to incorporate sustainability into matters that were important to them. After that the liaisons were to brainstorm with the host board’s members to find out what their priority issues were. SAB members observed it would be helpful to fashion a standard presentation based on the Natural Step Framework the City Council had adopted and have a consistent message to all boards and commissions. It would include a movie and describe easy steps everyone could take. Ms. Murphy stressed that the good news was that the technology was currently available to fix all the problems of global warming, so people just needed to embrace it and get on board and decide it was important.

Chair Baumann asked for volunteers to “self-identify” and put the presentation together so the board could start to become familiar with it at their next meeting. She stressed that although there were many different ways to define “sustainability” and “global warming,” the board should follow the Natural Step Framework the City Council had already adopted. Ms. Papaefthimiou distributed copies of the Boards and Commissions Handbook to those who did not already have a copy and noted it described each body’s mission and regular meeting times. The group generally agreed they would need to use their January and February meeting time to finalize the presentation, and then they would arrange to send liaisons to other bodies in March. Chair Baumann said she would ask Mayor Hoffman to send a letter to each board and commission asking them to invite the SAB liaisons to speak to them. Chair Baumann observed a consensus to not formalize the liaison procedure, but use it as an informal guide.

SAB Liaisons and volunteers for other 2009 Work Plan activities

Chair Baumann conducted a sticky note exercise in which each member indicated which city board or commission liaison team he/she wanted to be on as lead or backup. Members were initially reluctant to volunteer as liaisons to the Historic Resources Advisory Board because they did not see a connection to sustainability, but a team was finally formed who agreed to at least make the initial presentation. Chair Baumann asked each team lead to contact the chair of the board or commission they were to liaison with to arrange time on a March agenda. She asked each team to get together do discuss how engaged they wanted to be after they made the initial presentation.

Chair Baumann observed the SAB had also agreed to become involved in other activities, such as the Comprehensive Plan update and the issue of urban/rural reserves that the Planning Commission was to review; and the water conservation plan (that the NRAB was also looking at). She conducted another sticky note exercise to identify who wanted to work on those efforts.

Chair Baumann suggested the standard presentation to boards and commissions the SAB was to use could be modified so it could serve as a standard presentation at other public outreach events. She asked for a volunteer to be responsible for leading the Climate Change Action Month planning effort and the committee of members who had indicated they wanted to work on it. Mr. Gronowski indicated he was interested in working on the activity related to city codes and building practices. Other activities connected to that month were to conduct a logo-design contest, and solicit sponsors for the conservation pledge challenge. A volunteer was needed to serve as PGE's SAB contact regarding their renewable energy signup challenge. Chair Baumann and Mr. Diamond were to lead the public outreach effort. No one seemed to be interested in heading the CFL giveaway activity. The members agreed to contact the 30 people who had applied unsuccessfully to serve on the board and ask them to help. The board acknowledged they might hire an event consultant/coordinator. The staff confirmed the SAB had about \$40,000 budgeted for the event, but they clarified that although staff and a consultant would do most of the legwork, someone on the SAB had to serve a their connection to the Board, which should continue to lead the effort. Mr. Wahab volunteered co-lead with some other member. Chair Baumann planned to ask Mr. Briggs if he would also be a co-leader. She cautioned that if the board determined that they had taken on too much, they could drop one or two May activities or postpone the event until later in the year. She said she planned to revise the matrix and distribute it right away. She encouraged the event planning committee to get started right away and work with the staff.

Ms. Millhouse reported that a Clackamas County official had suggested Climate change Action Month group could be a countywide event. Chair Baumann said that the board would be interested in talking with them more about that.

Updates on input given to staff:

- **Water Conservation Plan**

Mr. Brown reported that he and Mr. Watkinson had discussed the plan with the city water official. They had told him they supported tiered water billing rates, but they thought it could have gone a little further to promote water conservation. The city could have budgeted \$50,000 to \$100,000 to offer incentives for using water saving devices and appliances instead of the \$13,000 they did budget for that purpose. He advised that such a program would eventually pay for itself. He said 60% of homes in Lake Oswego still used older, five-gallon, toilets. He anticipated the SAB would enjoy much public appreciation after July - when the public realized how much their water rates had increased – and SAB taught them what they could do to conserve water. He noted the plan was to be reassessed after a couple of years. He related that his own neighborhood association board had responded to the new water rates by appointing a water conservation subcommittee. Another SAB member recalled opponents had based their argument on “personal choice.” He said that was not an acceptable argument in the current environment of fewer resources and more people. He said water was considered almost free, but the city’s water official had advised that 13% of all energy used in the country was used to pump, treat and dispose of water. Mr. Diamond suggested the NRAB could be a great ally of the SAB on this issue. One of the members said he was preparing to write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper. Chair Baumann cautioned that he should clarify that he was a member of the SAB, but he was writing as an individual. She suggested the SAB could see if other boards and commissions wanted to join the SAB to sponsor activities during Climate Change Action Month.

○ **Comprehensive Plan update**

Chair Baumann reported that she, Mr. Rowe and Mr. Diamond had suggested more ideas to add to those the city had collected during a 2003 visioning effort and asked Sidaro Sin to attach them to the Comprehensive Plan Update Work Plan that was to be presented to the City Council. He had embedded some of them. The Planning Commission was to hold a hearing on the work plan on January 12, 2009. She hoped a representative of the SAB would be able to attend that hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled for January 19, 2009. There being no further business Chair Baumann adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonna Papaefthimiou
Associate Planner

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