



~~APPROVED~~

City of Lake Oswego Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes

April 19, 2010

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Co-Chair Grant Watkinson called the April 19, 2010 meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Board to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Yamhill Room of the West End Building, 4104 Kruse Way, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present: Co-Chair Grant Watkinson, Co-Chair Bruce Brown, Dorothy Atwood, Matt Briggs, Ron Gronowski, Paul Lyons, and Amin Wahab. Guest: Gary Bachofner. Staff present: Susan Millhauser, Sustainability Coordinator; Sidaro Sin, Senior Planner; Laura Weigel, Neighborhood Planner; and Justin Bates, AmeriCorps/Sustainability Outreach Specialist.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The members examined the draft minutes. Watkinson **moved** to accept the Minutes of March 8 and March 15, 2010 as drafted. Brown **seconded** the motion and it **passed** by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Atwood announced the upcoming gathering of the newly formed Lake Oswego Sustainability Professionals group, April 28 from 4 to 8 pm at the Lake House. Millhauser shared information about the Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District's rain barrel sale. Millhauser reported the City was accepting applications for SAB positions. Wahab reported the Second Look Task Force would hold two more meetings before it forwarded its recommendations to the City Council. Brown had attended the last City Council meeting when the City Council had listened to developer Bruce Wood discuss the current development atmosphere. Wahab announced that the Draft Environmental Impact Study for the Lake Oswego to Portland Transit Project had been issued for internal review. Millhauser distributed the updated Liaison List. She planned to email the members the results of Metro's regional greenhouse gas inventory.

PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

REGULAR BUSINESS

Comprehensive Plan update

Sidaro Sin and Laura Weigel reported the DLCD had accepted the City's work program on April 15. The City had three years to complete the Comprehensive Plan update. The first step in the process was to draft an updated vision statement to serve as a framework for updating the Plan. They were asking all boards and commissions for input. They anticipated the City Council would direct them to start the public engagement process this summer. They looked forward to engaging citizens who did not ordinarily participate in City government. The Plan

update would be in place in 2013 with an implementation action plan component. The two planners said they would come back to the next SAB meeting to discuss the vision statement. But there would be opportunities throughout the process for SAB input.

During the ensuing discussion the board explained they had originally wanted to draft a community sustainability plan, but had subsequently decided to put their efforts into incorporating sustainability into the Comprehensive Plan. They suggested the Plan was missing a chapter on building practices. The Plan should address allowing smaller footprint houses. It should call for zero waste, energy reduction and carbon neutrality. The goals should be specific, measurable, prioritized and audited regularly. Broad community support would come from a huge educational effort. Sin shared that the action plan step would include measurable goals, targets, and systems to check on progress. The timeline was very long, so perhaps the City Council should consider quicker action, such as approving some pilot programs. The SAB was working on creating an overarching sustainability policy statement the City Council could use in decision-making. It could also be used in updating the Comprehensive Plan.

The staff assured the Board that the \$100,000 that had been budgeted for the Comprehensive Plan update would be sufficient. The SAB could give the Council ideas about housing and building practices that could be moved forward more quickly. The updated Comprehensive Plan would help neighborhood associations focus on their own, local, issues, because it would resolve broader community issues such as density and transportation.

SAB members encouraged the staff to look at other cities that were models of how to incorporate sustainability, such as Vancouver, Washington and Madison, Wisconsin. Watkinson referred to the Comprehensive Plan subgoal regarding Earthquake Hazards and advised the City should know where unstable ground and faults were and subject development there to different building standards. Board members were to come to the next meeting prepared to offer input on the Vision Statement. Sin and Weigel left the meeting. In the interim before the next meeting Briggs was to compile ideas on what was missing from the Vision Statement and circulate them among SAB members.

Sustainability Action Month - Calendar of Events

Justin Bates showed the Board a copy of the insert that contained the calendar of events. There were 24 events. He reported the website had been updated and a press release was about to be issued. He circulated a signup sheet and asked for volunteers for events. Event attendees would be invited to participate in a survey. The group suggested local business and organization contacts to send publicity to. They hoped to attract a lot of people to watch Brigg's movie, *Deep Green*.

City Council Coordination

Watkinson and Brown had met with the Mayor and Councilor Moncrieff. The Mayor asked them to come to a City Council work session and talk with the Councilors about what the City could be doing to promote sustainability. NRAB representatives Doug Rich and Bill Gaar would be there too. The four board representatives had decided to draft a resolution to reduce water consumption by a specific amount. 10% per year for the next seven years would result in a total 50% reduction of water usage by City operations. The resolution would guide the City administration. The board representatives planned to meet with the Mayor again to discuss it.

During the ensuing discussion, the group observed the community of Lake Oswego was using almost twice as much water on a per capita basis as Tigard. Atwood observed that the community was currently grossly overusing water and questioned whether 50% would be enough of a reduction. But since the group did not know what the right percentage should be, they would encourage the City to cut usage in half. They hoped City government would set an example for the rest of the community. They noted that the City had already taken positive action by ramping up the cost of water to individual consumers.

Solarize Lake Oswego

Briggs, Moncrieff and others had met to discuss this effort. The Portland effort had begun as a grass roots effort, but then it got help from the City of Portland Office of Sustainability, which put on workshops and helped with signups and coordination. Energy Trust of Oregon did the solar readiness audits. Participants benefited from bulk purchase of materials and lower installation costs resulting from good coordination of projects. A Lake Oswego architect had volunteered to create material and installation standards. The local effort could decide to limit purchases to Oregon made panels. Each owner decided what size system to put on their house and contracted with an installer. Federal and state tax credits were still available. The City might have to look more closely at potential conflict between the Tree Code and solar access standards. Millhauser noted that the City's role would be minimal, assisting with getting the word out, as well as providing permitting review and approval. Briggs planned to be actively involved in the local, private, effort. The next steps were to start signing people up who wanted to get more information about it and develop a plan, and Bates encouraged Briggs to conduct outreach at upcoming Sustainability Action Month events.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business Co-Chair Watkinson adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Millhauser
Sustainability Coordinator

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