



CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes

December 20, 2010

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Co-chair Bruce Brown called the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) meeting of December 20, 2010, to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Main Fire Station, 300 B Avenue, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Members present: Co-chairs Bruce Brown and Grant Watkinson; Dorothy Atwood, Gary Bachofner, Daniel Gottlieb, Vidya Kale and Gregory Monahan

Members excused/absent: Sarah Asby and Matt Briggs

Council Liaison: Sally Moncrieff

Staff present: Susan Millhauser, Sustainability Coordinator; and Alex Deley, AmeriCorps worker

MINUTES

The draft was corrected and then Atwood **moved** to accept the Minutes of November 15, 2010. Watkinson **seconded** the motion and it **passed** by unanimous vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Parks and Recreation Department workshop regarding Luscher Farm was scheduled for January 22. The City was to host a block foam recycling event on January 8. Master Recyclers had helped significantly reduce the amount of landfill trash generated at the City employee holiday luncheon. Eleven people had confirmed they would attend the January 28-29 Train the Trainer program. The 2011 Board meeting schedule was distributed. Millhauser announced the City Council had adopted a resolution in support of a statewide plastic bag ban, which the SAB had reviewed and the recommended to the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

REGULAR BUSINESS

Review Agenda

Chair Brown added an agenda item to discuss Board recommendations to the Planning Commission about exceptions to the height limitation for solar panels being considered as part of the Planning Commission's review of the Community Development Code.

Update: Goal-setting meeting with the Mayor

Chair Brown reported that he and the chairs of other City boards had shared their goals at a recent Mayor's roundtable. Many of them had transportation-related goals. They planned to meet with the City Council on January 13 to talk about synergy and then present their specific requests to the City Council on January 22. Brown advised the SAB needed to refine its goals-related budget requests to account for the amount of staffing resources necessary. During the discussion Gottlieb questioned whether the City would need a bigger library given the trend toward electronic books. The group considered where to get data to support a cost/benefit analysis related to the Living Building goal. Brown suggested included the Living Building case study cost matrix with the goals document. A case by case analysis might be necessary for each new City facility. The Council had already had an analysis done related to use of the WEB. Councilor Moncrieff suggested the staff look for examples of other cities where a Living Building Challenge had worked. The Board scheduled a special meeting on January 5 to refine the goals document and discuss cost implications.

Board Liaisons

The Board examined and revised the list of SAB liaisons and other volunteer assignments. Monahan volunteered to lead the Zero Waste initiative. Deley agreed to lead the Sustainability Action Month effort with support from the Board. Sensitive Lands was taken off the list. The Board discussed the importance of tracking what was on other board's agendas to identify and work together on common concerns, such as pathways. NRAB, TAB and HRAB were all concerned about trails and pathways. The Board discussed rolling the SAB initiatives into the Board's goals, once finalized.

Sustainability Action Month

Deley planned to work with a subcommittee to plan SAM events. Atwood, Kale, Brown, Monahan, Gottlieb, and Briggs volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. The HRAB chair had asked the SAB to consider some other month than May for SAM because May was Historic Preservation Month. Watkinson suggested SAM events could be spread over the summer or the year. The Board heard suggestions to work with the NRAB to plan an event on Earth Day; staff a Farmers' Market booth on two Saturdays during the season; ask local companies and the school district to host events; ask Solar Oregon to conduct workshops; recruit speakers; present information about composting, wave energy and firms that generated their own power; arrange for vegetable garden and backyard chicken coop tours; write to the local newspaper each month to promote a SAM event; plan another bike event; and promote the City's participation in the Clean Energy Works Oregon home energy efficiency retrofit program.

Sustainability Fund/LOSD

The City was going to give the \$4,600 in Sustainability Dinner proceeds to the School District. Staff suggested the SAB could recommend the City give the money to Hallinan Elementary School to help them with their garden program; or give it to the District to help support an

urban watershed program or pay for an energy kiosk. The Assistant City Manager had visited Hallinan and learned it was becoming an Oregon Green School. The Hallinan effort included a sustainable food school lunch program. Hallinan could serve as a model for other schools. Chair Brown suggested allocating \$2,000 to Hallinan because it would help teach kids how to utilize rainwater and that kind of education was an SAB goal. The Board heard suggestions to use the rest of the money to pay for another school to follow the Hallinan model or to pay for teachers to attend sustainability education seminars. But they would wait to hear more information from the Assistant City Manager before they decided how it should be used.

Monahan **moved** to recommend that the City give Hallinan School \$2,000 of the Sustainability Supper proceeds for its garden project. Brown **seconded** the motion and it **passed** by unanimous vote.

Update: Comprehensive Plan Citizen Advisory Committee

Atwood reported the CAC was going to hold a design charrette to start building scenarios at its January 6 meeting. The following meeting was scheduled on January 26. She encouraged SAB members to attend CAC meetings. A public comment period was scheduled at the beginning and end of each meeting.

Lake Oswego to Portland Transit Project

Brant Williams, Director, Economic and Capital Development Department, was to provide an overview of the project at the regular January SAB meeting. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) had been issued. An open house would be held on January 24. The City Council would consider the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) at a study session on February 8 and hold the hearing on March 1. They were to vote on it on March 8. Brown suggested testing the new sustainability rating tool he and Millhauser were developing on this project. The Board planned to schedule a separate meeting to do that after they heard Williams' presentation and in time to forward a recommendation to the City Council. Atwood suggested inviting TAB to the meeting. Millhauser was to arrange for a meeting date between January 20 and the February SAB meeting.

Planning Commission request for comments on solar panels

The Planning Commission was considering an ordinance as part of the Community Development Code housekeeping updates that would exempt solar panels and related environmental components from the height restriction. Some Commissioners questioned why. The Planning Commission chair had asked the SAB for input. Chair Brown advised just about every city allowed some height increase over the allowable maximum for mechanical equipment.

Atwood **moved** to support the following recommendation regarding solar panel exemption from the building height requirement for the Planning Commission's consideration:

1. The SAB supports the proposed Community Development Code amendment adding solar panels to Section 50.22.015 General Exception to Structure Height Limitations, and recommends that the term “solar panels” be expanded to “solar panel and solar thermal systems” to ensure that solar panels, solar thermal (hot water), and required mounting systems are all exempt from the height limitations.
2. The SAB encourages the Planning Commission and staff to consider additional building height exceptions for green building practices to allow functioning roof top wind turbines, skylights and clerestories, and natural ventilation chimneys, while avoiding unacceptably tall solutions.

Watkinson seconded the motion and it **passed** by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Millhauser
Sustainability Coordinator

L:\Boards & Commissions\SAB\Minutes\2010\LO SAB2010 12-20 APPROVED.doc