



## CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO Sustainability Advisory Board Minutes

June 20, 2011

### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Co-chair Bruce Brown called the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) meeting of June 20, 2011, 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-chair Bruce Brown, Dorothy Atwood, Gary Bachofner, Daniel Gottlieb, and Gregory Monahan
Members excused/absent:	Co-chair Grant Watkinson, Vidya Kale and Sarah Asby
Council Liaison:	Sally Moncrieff (not present)
Guest(s):	Denise Daily, NRAB; Suzie Spencer; and E. Jay Murphy
Staff present:	Susan Millhauser, Sustainability Coordinator; and Alex Deley, AmeriCorps worker

### MINUTES

The Minutes of April 18, 2011 were **accepted** by unanimous vote.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dorothy Atwood announced the International Society of Sustainability Professionals would hold its conference in Portland September 22-23. Alex Deley, AmeriCorps worker, announced that August 10 would be his last day of work for the City. Millhauser reported the final budget proposal funded \$12,000 for an intern, but it would not be an AmeriCorps worker, because the necessary federal funding had dried up.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Denise Daily introduced herself as the NRAB liaison to SAB. She suggested the two Boards work together whenever possible because their missions overlapped. She encouraged the SAB to ask the Council to fund Natural Step membership and natural resource programs that had been removed during Budget Committee meetings. She encouraged the SAB to become involved in the Luscher Farm master planning process. Two candidates for the open board positions introduced themselves. Suzie Spencer was a certified arborist and E. Jay Murphy was an engineer.

## REGULAR BUSINESS

### **Review 2011 Action Goals & Liaison Roles**

The Board reviewed the status of its goals [see 2011 Goals letter to Council (Rev. 1-13-2011)]. There were four overarching goals (“mega goals”) to achieve by 2050: zero carbon footprint; “nature neutral” water consumption; zero waste production; and toxin free environment. Millhauser anticipated the greenhouse gas inventory project would be done by October. Federal energy block grant money would fund it. The consultant had been selected. The Mayor wanted to schedule a Council study session on Climate Smart Communities. Brown advocated expanding the water conservation incentive program five-fold to \$150,000 per year to make quicker progress replacing the City’s toilets. He planned to talk about that the next day when the Council considered the budget.

Besides the mega goals there were also a number of SAB “Action goals.” One called for the City to adopt a full lifecycle analysis and cost for its building decisions. The SAB had previously presented the Living Building Challenge to the Council. The next step would be to do the necessary research and then explain the economics of living buildings to the Council. Looking ahead just 10 years was not enough. “True” lifecycle cost should be calculated 20 to 30 years out. Atwood suggested expanding that goal to include eco districts, such as Foothills, which might be able to use water from the wastewater treatment plant. Millhauser reported Cascadia Green Building Council had contacted her to find out who it could talk to about its findings on how water consumption could be addressed in code. She had suggested Cascadia contact those connected with Foothills planning. Foothills planners were aiming at LEED-level neighborhood development. Millhauser announced that Matt Briggs planned to continue to hold model green home open houses at his own home. She would provide the Board with the schedule. Brown asked Millhauser to ask Allied Waste to return to update the SAB on how the commercial food waste composting program was working. Grant Watkinson was not present to update the board on the status of Green Chemistry Building & Vehicle Maintenance. But Millhauser reported water quality staff was promoting the Ecological Business (ECOBiz) certification program to City parks and shop maintenance staffs. The Facilities Director was using green cleaning products and non-bleached, recycled paper products.

When they talked about Pesticide/Herbicide Free Public Space, Dailey and the SAB members recalled the Parks and Recreation Department was not convinced that it was feasible to control invasives without spraying. Atwood suggested leveraging the friends of parks groups. Brown suggested a small-scale demonstration project in a median strip or some small public space. The Master Recyclers group was helping accomplish the Action goal: Zero waste public events. They had worked with the Rotary and Lions to plan their events. The Lake Run planning committee got Parks to convert some yard debris containers into additional compost bins for the event. One of the lessons learned this year was that Far West Fiber should be included in the planning of Citywide Clean-Up Day in the future. Brown reported that he applied for city neighborhood enhancement grant funds to create a Neighborhood Recycling Pilot Program in his neighborhood, but the City did not recommend funding as staff had concerns about zoning (code does not allow a neighborhood recycling center on proposed site as it would be considered a transfer station, not allowed in a residential zone). He suggested the approach could be to sponsor special recycling events. Brown reported that only six of the 21

neighborhood associations he contacted had expressed interest in a Neighborhood Association Sustainability Summit. Atwood suggested talking about sustainability at a regularly scheduled meeting of neighborhood associations. Brown observed the Board was making progress toward its goals. He planned to compose and circulate an updated summary.

### **Next Steps: Water Conservation Incentive Funding**

Brown was preparing to present to the Council the following evening. He was considering whether to suggest bumping incentive program funding incrementally instead of all at once. That might seem more palatable. As more and more people conserved the City had less cash flow for financing the new plant. But the City would realize energy savings when less energy was used by the treatment plant. Others suggested other reasons to conserve were uncertainty of supply; uncertainty of demand; and the indirect costs associated with greenhouse gas emissions associated with water production and treatment. Brown advised that climate change was affecting the rate of snow melt. Snow pack was melting earlier and earlier in the season. Atwood saw a need for a different economic model for use of resources. Brown reasoned that if the City was selling less water per person and had trouble meeting financing costs it needed to sell less water per person to more people. West Linn was a logical potential water customer.

### **Board Membership Changes**

Interviews of prospective board members were scheduled for June 29. There were six applicants for the four open positions currently held by Watkinson, Briggs (who had resigned); Atwood and Bachofner. Atwood would continue to serve on the Comprehensive Plan CAC. Schools had been notified, but there were no applicants for the youth member position.

### **Upcoming Outreach Opportunities**

Gottlieb and Brown were helping put on the Electric Vehicle Expo on August 21. The Board would staff a booth one Saturday a month through September. Millhauser circulated a sign-up sheet. One Saturday they were to share a booth with the Master Recyclers. She suggested they considering promoting Clean Energy Works Oregon program to homeowners. Dailey said she could provide a contact who could supply native plants. Atwood noted Palisades students had a native garden at their school. Millhauser planned to meet with representatives to learn more about an Umpqua Bank/Solar Oregon project to solarize Lake Oswego and West Linn.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting was scheduled on July 18, 2011. There being no further business Co-chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Millhauser  
Sustainability Coordinator