

CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION
City Council Chambers
Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Commissioners Present: Chairperson Marya Ryan, Gary Cziko, John Marlin, Aaron Petri, Kirstin Replogle, Todd Rusk, Stephen Wald

Staff Present: Bart Hagston, Kate Brickman

Additional Present: Carol McKusick

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Declaration of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Kate Brickman called the roll and a quorum was present.

Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda submitted.

Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Rusk, second by Ms. Replogle, to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2011 meeting. Motion carried.

Public Input

Ms. McKusick, 403 W. University, Urbana, spoke to the Commission concerning the City Ordinance requiring haulers to provide for mixed recycling and the downstream processes.

Communications

Monthly Staff Report

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

- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant projects;
- Regional Sustainability Planning Grant Application;
- 25th Anniversary of the U-Cycle program and further promotional efforts.

Discussion and questions ensued.

Ms. Replogle announced that tonight was her last meeting. Ms. Ryan thanked her for her valued input and commitment to SAC while she has been on the Commission.

Continuing Business

Climate Action Plan

Mr. Rusk gave a short presentation showing how he had grouped together proposal measures from the CAPPa planning spreadsheet, public input suggestions, and findings from the SEDAC report to highlight and simplify areas of significance to better enable SAC to produce a list of strategies for the Climate Action Plan Phase I document.

Discussion and questions ensued.

Mr. Hagston mentioned that the use of renewable energy on a community-wide scale could have a tremendous impact in helping meet the goal for greenhouse gas reduction. He cited communities that pursue this option as part of their municipal aggregation programs. Hagston further referenced discussions that were currently taking place between City staff and various consultants who assist communities in getting alternate energy referendums passed, education processes, working with suppliers, etc. As the issue stands, the City is looking at listing this item on the December City Council Agenda for a possible referendum placement on the March ballot.

Mr. Marlin questioned the stability of companies and what other communities are doing to be wary of suppliers that may be dubious. Mr. Hagston indicated that these concerns have and will be further addressed as the discussions continue and that he would be updating SAC at future meetings.

Ms. Ryan led the discussion back toward the framework/structure of the Phase I document. She proposed that the following three items be included in the draft to Council:

- SAC's Vision Statement;
- Request for formal adoption by Council of greenhouse gas reduction target; and
- A more precise definition from Council concerning the duties of SAC.

Ms. Ryan also indicated that several City projects have come to the attention of SAC that would be specifically related to the strategies that are being developed and suggested that a better framework can be developed if it included direction from Council for SAC to make recommendations based on these strategies.

Ms. Replogle recommended reviewing the 2008 City of Urbana Sustainability Report to look for opportunities that could be incorporated into the Phase I document.

Mr. Rusk suggested including a timeline for milestones the City has achieved to date.

Mr. Hagston pointed out that the greenhouse gas inventory from the 2007 baseline year would be clearly laid out as well.

New Business

There was no new business.

Announcements

Ms. Ryan announced that a new Vice Chairperson would be selected at the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 1, 2011.

Mr. Hagston announced the fourth and final electronics recycling event of the year for Champaign County on Saturday, October 29, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. until noon at the News Gazette building in Champaign. Residents may bring up to 10 pieces of electronics for recycling at no charge.

Mr. Cziko announced the next Cycling Savvy course on November 2, 2011 in the ARC auditorium on the U of I campus. More information is available at cyclingsavvy.org.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

This meeting was recorded.