

**CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS**  
**SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**Tuesday, November 1, 2011**

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

**Commissioners Absent:** John Marlin [excused]

**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 7:03 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. Cziko, second by Mr. Rusk, to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2011 meeting. Motion carried.

**Public Input**

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

**Communications**

**Monthly Staff Report**

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

- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant projects;
- LED Streetlight Installation;
- Municipal Electric Aggregation

Discussion and questions ensued.

The Commission talked about the potential for the City to bargain on behalf of residents for renewable energy on a community-wide scale through municipal aggregation. Mr. Rusk suggested educational efforts to help promote the idea to residents. Mr. Hagston stated that the use of 100% renewable energy through aggregation could result in a community-wide emissions reduction of 30%, which would significantly alter the focus of the Climate Action Plan.

Mr. Wald stated that he had been informed that the financial savings from municipal aggregation would not be as substantial over the long-term, as they were predicted to be for the short-term.

Mr. Hagston stated that this was correct, as Ameren's rate is expected to drop slightly as some of their long-term supply contracts expire. However, the rate under the aggregation program could

be contractually guaranteed to remain at or below the Ameren rate, thereby reducing the risk of lower rates developing outside the aggregation program.

Municipal aggregation would be dependent on the City Council passing an ordinance placing a referendum before voters in the March 2012 election. On November 14<sup>th</sup> information will be provided to the City Council in the hopes of submitting an ordinance for their consideration in December. The deadline for getting items placed on the March ballot is January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Continuing Business**

#### **Climate Action Plan**

Ms. Ryan presented a draft Phase I of the Climate Action Plan, including the following sections:

- Introduction;
- City of Urbana Sustainability Vision Statement;
- Climate Action Principles
- Greenhouse Gas Baseline and Emissions Reduction Goal
- Initial Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies
- SAC Review
- City Greenhouse Gas Reduction Efforts to Date
- City Council and Mayor Goals that Support Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The Commission agreed that the proposed municipal aggregation could be mentioned and, in turn, Mr. Rusk would take a new look the proposal measures he had submitted previously. Additionally, Mr. Hagston indicated that he and Ms. Brickman would take a look at the 2008 City of Urbana Sustainability Report, along with relevant City and Council updates, to provide a more up-to-date picture of what has been accomplished previously. Ms. Ryan will work with staff to incorporate current information into a updated version for the December SAC meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Selection of Commission Vice President**

Ms. Ryan nominated Mr. Wald for the vacant position of Vice Chairperson. Mr. Cziko made the motion to approve the nomination and Mr. Rusk seconded. Motion carried.

### **Announcements**

Mr. Cziko announced the Cycling Savvy course on November 2, 2011 in the ARC auditorium on the University of Illinois campus. Mr. Wald also mentioned that the University's Office of Sustainability is hosting this year's Sustainability Week this week. There will be a variety of sustainability activities and outreach on campus throughout the week, including a review of the university's climate action plan.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

This meeting was recorded.