



Agenda

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SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 20, 2011
City Councilor's Conference Room
Santa Fe, NM
3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 19, 2011 and August 16, 2011
- E. INTRODUCTION OF NEW AMERICORPS CADRE MEMBERS
- F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR
- G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS
 - 1. Report on Food Policy Council activities
 - 2. Presentation of Annual Progress Report for 2010 to City Council
- H. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
 - 1. Committee assignments, time commitments and scheduling
 - 2. Implementation of 2011 Objectives:
 - a. Green Building and Development Codes (K. Shanahan)
 - b. Public Utilities Department Environmental Management System (R. Wheeler)
 - c. Greenhouse Gas Reduction from Energy Sources
 - d. Public Outreach and Communication (B. Sopoci-Belknap)
 - 3. Implementation Work Planning – Coordinating all 2011 objectives
- I. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR
- J. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION
- K. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: – October 18, 2011

NOTE: Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

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SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION
September 20, 2011**

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MINUTES OF THE

CITY OF SANTA FE

SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION

September 20, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Sustainable Santa Fe Commission was called to order by Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair at 3:15 p.m. at the City Hall, City Councilors' Conference Room, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum for conducting official business as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair
Tim Rogers
Louise Pape
Joe Sehee
D.H. Strongheart

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kim Shanahan, Vice Chair, excused
Camilla Bustamante, excused (will be resigning)
2 vacancies

STAFF PRESENT:

Katherine Miller, City of Santa Fe Environmental Services Division
Regina Wheeler, City of Santa Fe Solid Waste Division Director
Erin Lloyd-Ortigiza, Americorps Food Cadre Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shayna Lewis, youth representative
Isaac Garcia
Robert Staszewski
Richard Welker

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Pape moved to approve the Agenda as published. Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 16, 2011

Commissioner Pape moved to approve the Minutes of the August 16, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Sopoci-Belknap seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

July 19, 2011

Commissioner Pape moved to approve the Minutes of the August 16, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Strongheart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW AMERICORPS MEMBERS

The new Americorps person was asked to introduce herself. Erin Lloyd-Ortigiza is working with the Environmental Services Division for the next 11 months through the Americorps Food Cadre program run by Earth Care. She recently graduated from UNM with a Master of Landscape Architecture. Her thesis was explored design of regions that support food through edible infrastructure. Prior to that she was a Peace Corps volunteer in Paraguay.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Robert Staszewski introduced himself. He received his bachelors from UNM in communication and journalism.

Isaac Garcia introduced himself. He is from Santa Fe and currently going to Santa Fe Community College. Sustainability is his passion. He has taken numerous sustainability focused classes. He has been working in construction and landscaping for the past 4 to 5 years and his interests in sustainability are also in these areas.

Richard Welker introduced himself. He used to live here and just moved back and would like to get involved.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

1. Report on Food Policy Council Activities

Ms. Mortimer reported that the Council has been going through a similar reorganization as the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission has and have identified areas of work focus for the coming year. One area of focus is the Farm Bill which includes a large number of items that will affect the local food system including funding for SNAP and other programs designed to reduce hunger. Commissioner Pape Said that she was asked to participate in the American Farm and Ranch Alliance which she later found out is funded by Monsanto and so has chosen not to continue that affiliation. Chair Sopoci-Belknap added that the Food Policy Council has prepared a white paper for the County with recommendations on codification of food and agriculture policies included in the Sustainable Growth Management Plan. The white paper contains specific policy recommendations taken from other places. Additionally, we expect to have some specific policy recommendations emerging from the assessment now under preparation, probably sometime in the Spring.

2. Presentation of Annual Progress Report for 2010 to City Council

Ms. Mortimer reported that the presentation to the City Council on September 14th had gone well and that Chair Sopoci-Belknap had done an excellent job with the presentation. Ms. Wheeler added that the comments received centered around our recycling efforts which reflected a feeling that they are trying to see if those efforts are penetrating into the community.

Commissioner Strongheart asked how much room there is in the Annual Report for consideration of adding another section on well-being indicators that link to environmental ecosystem services. This would be a chapter on genuine progress related to how we define and measure well-being in our community.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap suggested that this information could be added to each of the topical sections rather than a separate chapter.

Commissioner Strongheart added that defining “well-being” should be done through a participatory community process.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap asked if that wasn’t part of the process.

Commissioner Strongheart replied that it was its own thing and to the degree that we answer to the community that it should stand on its own.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap asked whether the Commission should be writing a new Plan. She suggested that maybe this would be an additional committee that looks as assessment, score cares and committee process to see how to measure well-being and to look at how to revise the Plan.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Committee assignments, time commitments and scheduling**
- 2. Implementation of 2011 Objectives**
 - a. Green Building and Development Codes**
 - b. Public Utilities Department – Environmental Management System**
 - c. Greenhouse Gas Reduction from Energy Sources**
 - d. Public Outreach and Communion**

Chair Sopoci-Belknap feels the Commission needs to restructure themselves, more than just setting up new committees. She presented a proposal to redesign how we do the monthly meetings to create more space to do work and less reporting. She proposed to limit the monthly meetings to 1 hour and during what would have been the first hour of the meeting, to work in committees.

Commissioner Strongheart asked if it wasn’t that case that everyone was assigned to more than one committee and wouldn’t that make this arrangement difficult.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap acknowledged that that is currently the case but suggested that those assignments should be reconsidered and people should pick their main area of focus. She imagined that some folks might spend some time with one committee and other time with another. She said that we need to rethink the entire structure since the committees haven't been meeting.

Commissioner Strongheart said that he would like to keep the current format in order to hear from folks from the outside and have committee meetings at a different time, maybe over a beer or another casual setting.

Commissioner Rogers would like to see the committees spurred on to do more work but also wants to be able to delve into things more deeply than a 1 hour meeting would allow.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap Feels like there is a lot of time spent talking among the Commissioners during the meeting and that it would be more efficient to have those conversations outside of the formal meeting. She also feels that the committees need to meet during the month and not just for the 1 hour before the official meeting time. She reminded everyone that there is an intention to invite others to participate in the committees who aren't members of the Commission.

Commissioner Sehee likes the idea of splitting up the meeting and would like to try it to see how well it works.

Ms. Wheeler also likes it and added that staff will be in the room to facilitate.

Commissioner Strongheart asked how many committees with respect to the number of Commissioners and indicated that by not having people participate on more that one committee at a time there aren't enough commissioners to ensure the work gets done.

Ms. Lewis noted that having working meetings between the formal meetings has worked well for the Planning Commission and that she would be amenable to having additional meetings during the month.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said she would like to understand what it would take to move the work forward.

Ms. Wheeler mentioned that the schedule and location of the other meetings could be announced both at these meetings and in other contexts.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap went over the committees. There are 4 committees and currently 6 Commissioners though Ms. Lewis will be added shortly with 2 positions still vacant. The EMS is being moved forward by staff, the Development Code revisions are on hold for an external process, the energy work is waiting to work with New Energy Economy and the RPA Energy Task Force.

Commissioner Strongheart expressed concern that limiting the formal meeting to 1 hour would limit the invitation of the unexpected into the work of the Commission. If the committee meetings were scheduled right before the formal meeting that could act as a force to wait and not schedule another meeting in the meantime.

Commissioner Sehee suggested having 30 minute committee meetings before the formal meeting which would be 1.5 hours and having other committee meetings held between the formal meetings.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap indicated that the commission basically needed to reinvent itself. Commissioners need to take a more active role in adding things to the agenda and reading the minutes and agendas in advance of the meeting. There has been no committee work happening. Suggested the Commission modify her proposal and see how it works. She added that the Commission needs to have a clear work plan for each meeting.

Commissioner Paper suggested that the compromise could be that the Commissioners arrive at 3 but that the formal meeting not begin until 3:30 and see how that works.

Commissioner Sehee moved to divide the two-hour time block into 30 minutes for committee meetings followed by a 1.5 hour Commission meeting. The first ½ hour will to be used to set the committee meetings for between the formal meetings and to set the agenda for the next meeting. Commissioner Pape seconded the motion which passed by voice vote with one nay by Commissioner Strongheart and no abstentions.

Commissioner Strongheart Suggestion that the Commission could bring forth information that is felt to be more important to be more effective.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap indicated that the Commission would still have a similar format to the existing one during the 1.5 hour time block and would try to use “Items from the Commission” better.

Committee assignments were made: Environmental Management System (EMS) will consist of Commissioners Pape, Strongheart and Sehee.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap indicated that she has an idea about how the EMS can be leveraged to benefit the community.

Commissioner Paper indicated that the EMS process needs to be better communicated and inclusive.

The Development Code Committee work is waiting for an external process but it was determined that it isn't too early to start the process including completing a resolution for City Council consideration to direct staff to form an outside advisory committee. The membership of the Committee: Commissioners Rogers, Shanahan and Strongheart.

Ms. Lewis indicated that she was waiting to hear about the work of each of the Committees before selection which to serve on.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap asked about having a presentation on development codes and how they can be used to guide development in a more sustainable way once the group gets started. She indicated that we need a "Planning 101" type of presentation that explains the difference between a code and a long range plan and other planning tools.

Commissioner Pape suggested that Katherine Mortimer do a 20 to 30 minutes presentation on the development code and what the Commission will be doing with regard to it.

The Education and Outreach Committee will consist of Commissioner Strongheart and Chair Sopoci-Belknap.

The Energy Committee needs to make the connection between the Energy Task Force and New Energy Economy. Commissioner Sehee agreed to meet with Craig O'Hare of the County to get up to speed and explore how best the Commission might support this work.

Commissioner Strongheart reported that Marial Nanasi of New Energy Economy said there they are learning a lot from Boulder Colorado's efforts. She recommends that Santa Fe should pay close attention to how things unfold there.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap suggested that the Education and Outreach Committed make a report card of the Commissions progress towards greenhouse gas emission reductions and other areas. Other's interested in that work should join that committee.

Ms. Lewis indicated that she still isn't comfortable committing to a committee as the Youth Advisory Board she is representing may have different values. She wants to consult with that group before she commits.

An Assessment Committee was formed consisting of Commissioner Strongheart and Chair Sopoci-Belknap. It was suggested that they consider a happiness index such as the Butond (sp?) alternative progress indictors.

Ms. Wheeler noted that there still needed to be a decision about what the Assessment Committee will do.

The two remaining vacancies was discussed.

Commissioner Strongheart suggested that an ad could be placed in the Green Fire Times.

Commissioner Sopoci-Belknap reminded everyone that diversity and connection to other parts of the community has been expressed as a need of the Commission in relation to its membership. She added that there has to be clear communication about what the

commitment is including a minimum of 2 hours of Commission work plus another 2 hours of committee work each month. She asked everyone to consider if they know anyone who would meet those criteria and, if so, to invite them to attend a meeting.

Ms. Lloyd-Ortigoza provided an update on the EMS and passed out a draft of a poster to be used to communicate with the employees within the Environmental Services Division. She also reported that she is preparing a business case document using examples from both Denver and NYC. Once that is completed staff will be issuing a division-wide memo inviting all staff and connecting the process to the personal values of the employees. Within the meeting that will be held, staff will present the process including the initial development of the system followed by a continual improvement cycle. Staff will also introduce the concept and create a steering committee to facilitate the process which will represent each level of work within the division. There will also be representation from outside the division including a private company and now 2 members of the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission, one which represents non-profits. During that meeting a champion will be designated who will take on the cheerleader role. The business case will be presented including a cost-benefit analysis. A representative from the next division to take on an EMS will also be included. The next division has been identified as the Buckman Diversion Plant.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap asked what the process will be to obtain feedback from the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission into the process and what is the timeframe for that feedback.

Ms. Lloyd-Ortigoza indicated that the documents would be sent out by Thursday with feedback being requested by Monday.

Commissioner Sehee presented a power point presentation on a green city program powered by GBB.org. He reported that he looked for existing turn-key programs. One he found is called Audobon, though it not now connected to the Audobon society but may have spun off of that organization. Many of the programs he reviewed appeared to be green washing with little or no third party verification. A benefit of using a program with good name recognition is being able to leverage the investment in marketing of such a program. However, any program adopted by the City would then have the City's stamp of credibility, diminishing the benefit of using a "name brand". He reported that he had consulted the Chamber of Commerce and they like the idea and feel that there would be interest in the business community. He recommends using the Green America program to be the trust provider as they currently have a lot of credibility.

Commissioner Pape noted that this kind of program which involves the larger community would be favorably received by City Councilor Calvert who has expressed a desire to focus less on what the City is doing for its own operations and have more activities which involve and inspire the community to invest their efforts towards sustainability.

Commissioner Sehee added that the Audobon program has 2 tracks; one for municipalities and another for the private sector. He also mentioned that a representative of

this organization will be in Santa Fe in early November and would like to meet with any of the Commissioners who would like to.

3. Implementation Work Planning – Coordinating All 2011 Objectives

This was not discussed.

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR

None

ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Rogers reported that the League of American Bicyclists designated Santa Fe as a bike friendly community at the bronze level.

Commissioner Pape reported that there was a community garden tour and Roots and Shoots program at the Railyard. She also reported that there is an upcoming event where Dr. Elaine Ingham will be speaking on October 14, 15 and 16. Dr. Ingham is a soil scientist and a dynamic speaker. Commissioner Pape also reported that there has been vandalism at the Frenchy's community garden that has disheartened many participants.

Vandana Shiva is confirmed for the October 28 and 29 Sustainable Living Conference.

Commissioner Strongheart asked if there could be an agenda item at the next meeting regarding updating/revising the Plan.

Ms. Lewis wants to hear more about the EMS schedule.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap will present a short movie, A Convenient Truth – Case Study of Curativa, at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

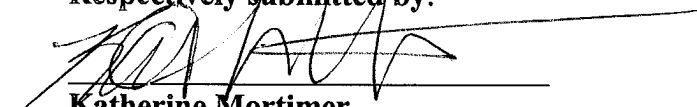
Schedule next meeting/ adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for October 18th, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. Chair Sopoci-Belknap adjourned the meeting at 5 p.m.

Approved by:

Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair

Respectively submitted by:



Katherine Mortimer