

Stevens Point Eco-Municipality Task Force

GREEN BUILDING & ENERGY SUB-COMMITTEE

Monday, November 19th, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Portage County Library, Pinery Room
Stevens Point, WI

MINUTES

Present: Tom Brown, Ed Bueller, Jackson Case, Michelle Glodowski, Tim Hanley, Alec Linde, Corey Rusch, Sara Windjue, Kelly Zagrzebski

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
3. Reviewed notes from kick-off event at Ben Franklin Junior High on Oct. 30
4. Discussion (from kick-off notes)
 - a. Urban forestry – Tom Brown wants to invite Todd Ernester, City Forester, to the next meeting to talk about trees and energy in the City; he has software, stats, etc. to share; landscaping around homes to decrease energy consumption
 - b. Lighting – reducing the lighting around Stevens Point – lighting vs. safety (1st LED street light on Frontenac St.); solar-powered street lights
 - c. Zoning
 - d. New position for the City: Energy Manager
 - e. Establishing an energy baseline for the City - use specific indicators that will show more of a change/progress from year to year (smaller sample size); Tom shared links from other city's who have similar baseline information, but hasn't found an example of what we want specifically
 - i. Get information from Wisconsin Public Service
 - ii. Get information from the City's Energy Manager – ask for energy usage, not \$ amount
 - iii. Ask local residents for permission to give you info. (survey)
 - iv. Case by case (example: fire station)
 - v. Just city buildings
 - vi. Just new construction
 - vii. Just LEED certified buildings (one and only example: Boldt construction)
 - viii. Just large facilities who have internal sustainability committees where energy is more easily tracked
 - f. How do we make changes/progress happen?
 - i. Education
 - ii. Incentives – lower percentage rates on mortgage if you build an energy efficient home
 - g. Education – Get the public's attention

- i. Produce a “Did you Know...?” fact sheet (put in utility bills, in newspaper, on Web site, distribute at community events)
 - ii. Have a central place to go for all information (Web site, newspaper)
 - iii. Get the local Golden Sands Home Builder’s Association involved in the meetings or disseminate information to the local builders
 - iv. When you begin a new project, information should be distributed when you get your builders permit, get information about loans at the bank, etc.; develop a questionnaire asking people who are getting a permit for a new project to make them think about more sustainable options
 - v. Model/Demonstration projects for the public; show that changes are good and feasible
5. Offers from Wisconsin Public Service – Kelly Zagrzebski offered funding through Public Service to continue a service that has been performed in the past which included college students walking through homes to find ways to improve their energy efficiency (wrapping pipes, changing light bulbs, etc.)
Discussion continued on how we don’t want to offer something similar to that which CAP Services and Targeted Home Performance already offers. **However, this type of project could be a great opportunity to partner with CAP and/or Targeted Home Performance.**
6. Further Discussions regarding our charge as a sub-committee
 - a. We reviewed the 4 sustainability objectives found in The Natural Step book
 - b. We need to think about changes that will occur in the future. The technology we have now will be different in 10-20 years. **Recommendations** we make to the City may need to be more general and broad such as:
 - i. Policies should be in place to use best practices when approaching a new project
 - ii. Explore and implement proven alternative technologies to fuel our vehicles, power our buildings, etc. (examples of this are waste-to-fuel plants and StarTech conversion burner)
 - iii. Any building getting rehabbed or a new building must receive energy modeling BEFORE project begins
 - iv. All new and rehabbed buildings should meet a standard – certification is important such as LEED and Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Homes certifications **or an accreditation such as in WasteCap Wisconsin’s Accreditation in Construction and Demolition Recycling**
7. Invitations for next meeting
 - a. Todd Ernester (City Forester) – Tom will invite
 - b. Joe Euclid (City Engineer) – Alec will invite – What is the city building policy?
 - c. John Yelk? (street lighting)
8. Adjourn – It was decided that we should meet twice a month instead of once a month. The next meeting will be on December 3, 2007 at Ellis Stone at 5:15 p.m.