

Eco-municipality  
Sub-committee: Green Building and Energy  
October 8, 2007

Present: Tom Brown, Ed Bueller, Jackson Case, Alec Linde, Sara Polodna, Sara Windjue

Meeting began: 6:30 p.m. – Rotary Meeting Room, Portage County Library, Stevens Point

Committee Assignments:

- Sara Windjue will type notes/minutes and send to everyone on the email list
- Sara reserved Rotary Room at library for 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month from 6:30-8:30
- Committee Facilitator/Chair – do we need one?
- Jackson will be the contact for ideas which will be added to a list for our next meeting
- Jackson will find out if we have to post the meeting announcement in a public area

1. Definition of our sub-committee

**Task 1:** Alec asked for a definition our sub-committee. The discussion included:

- what are our expectations of a building
- do public buildings need a minimum level of compliance with some things?

2. Categorizing buildings (public vs. private)

**Task 2:** It was determined that we need to categorize the types of buildings that exist in Stevens Point; Public (includes UWSP, County, City, and State buildings) and Private (includes residential and commercial).

**Task 3:** The question was asked, “What do we encourage or suggest for each category of building?”

3. Establish baseline

Ed wanted to know how we will measure our progress/the results of an Eco-municipality “plan”.

**Possible Recommendation #1:** We need baseline data in order to measure progress (a snapshot of right now), also called key performance measures.

Some specific key performance measures (indicators?) may include:

- Footprint of Stevens Point (acreage)
- Energy consumption per capita
- Electrical consumption
- Water consumption (pass on to water sub-committee)
- Population
- Gallons of gasoline used
- How many people have renewable energy systems
- How many people have had home energy audits/business energy audits
- How many people purchase NatureWise<sup>®</sup> from Wisconsin Public Service
- % of buildings that have had pre-construction energy modeling
- How many buildings in Stevens Point?
- How many sq. ft. of buildings?
- Where does our energy come from?
- What is % of Stevens Point covered in roads, sidewalks, etc. (pass on to water sub-committee)

4. Mandates vs. recommendations

Ed stressed that we shouldn't take mandates to the Taskforce. We need to provide recommendations and get cooperation so there isn't any duplicity of resources (time, money, etc.). We need a change in the thought process of our community by looking at both economics and the environment.

5. Report Card on energy consumption and production

**Possible Recommendation #2:** Tom suggested a Report Card of the Community to show how we're "stacked up" against other communities and to monitor our progress. This will show where there is room for improvement and will also continue the community involvement. The report card may mirror the data collected in the baseline report.

6. Educational piece

**Possible Recommendation #3:** Tom suggested an educational piece with "wow" facts to get people's attention and to educate the public on energy issues. This piece could include such things as: 1) how much money does it cost to operate the stoplights each month, or 2) how much CO<sub>2</sub> is released from one home on a yearly basis, or 3) how much oil/coal do we import each year. This piece could also include ideas on how to reduce these amounts to 'empower the people'. May parallel the items we want to address in the report card to keep things consistent and focused.

7. Energy modeling on buildings

**Possible Recommendation #4:** Tom suggested that energy modeling be done on every new public building.

8. Energy generation/transfer

Another thing to think about is instead of taking things away from our community, what do we want to add? What are opportunities here we want to take advantage of?

- decentralized energy production (i.e. renewables)
- other examples?

9. Building vs. non-building energy usage

Tom said many of the things that we address may come from the things that affect us individually. His example included the lighting in the city, which is way overdone. He also mentioned the up-lighting on billboards, and traffic lights that aren't "smart".

**Possible Recommendation #5:** There are acceptable ways of lighting and we may need policy to address it.

10. City staffing

**Possible Recommendation #6:** Does the City have an energy engineer on staff? How would this benefit the City of Stevens Point?

Meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m. with a summary of the items we discussed: 1) categorize buildings 2) establish baseline and report card 3) distinguishing between building vs. non-building energy use 4) educational piece 5) concept of energy generation/transfer.

Next Meeting: November 19, 2007, 6:30 p.m., Rotary Room, Portage County Library, Stevens Point

Minutes/notes submitted by Sara Windjue