



CITY OF TACOMA SUSTAINABLE TACOMA COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

DATE: February 12, 2013

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Holly Williams, Carol Shiflett, Dan Dzyacky, Bill Anderson, Nick Cutting, Kimberlie Lelli, Phil Coughlan, Karen Hamilton

COMMISSION MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jane Moore, Ellen Moore, Bliss Moore

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristi Lynett, Jim Parvey, Bill Smith, Bob Mack, Janet Hunter, Catherine Taylor

▪ **Approval of the January 8, 2013 Meeting Notes**

The January 8, 2013 meeting notes were approved and adopted.

▪ **Review of the February Agenda**

The February agenda was reviewed and approved.

▪ **2008 Climate Action Plan (CAP) Review**

Members were introduced to Project Intern, Janet Hunter. Janet is a recent graduate of PLU with a major in Environmental Studies and will be assisting staff on the CAP report project. For the last two years, the Commission has produced CAP Sustainability Accomplishment reports. The goal has been to have at least a 98% final draft available for the Expo. Last month, the departments were asked to provide summaries of all the different strategies; many responses were received.

The Commission has achieved a lot of great work, and the task at-hand is trying to encapsulate this into a small readable document. In review of a rough draft of the current report, staff asked for feedback on the look of the document and outlining the five categories. Members and staff engaged in open discussion on the draft report – a few key points

- Having the report capture everything that has been completed, partially completed or not yet started - a transition document. At the end of the report would be a section on the next phase of the CAP; the undertaking of the STAR system; and reference of the resolutions that expanded the definition that the Commission is using for sustainability.
- The challenge of having a specific section on how the CAP report actions/strategies relate to the STAR rating system; mapping the Commission's strategies with STAR. Also, the ability to relate the actions that have not been addressed or partially addressed so that anyone who might be interested in tracking a particular strategy could look for it under the STAR system (cross-reference).

▪ **Sustainability Expo Planning**

- Expo posters still need to be distributed to a few businesses around the City
- Volunteers are needed to staff the booth
- Staff requested help with postings on blogs and on-line calendars

- Booth offerings:
 - * Table copies of the CAP 2008-2012 final report; the on-line link will be provided
 - * Sign-ups for those interested in placement on the Commission list serve, EnviroTalk list serve and sustainability Facebook page
 - * STC priorities (STAR) – Engage the community on the seven goal areas of the STAR system. The suggestion was to develop a large poster board outlining the STAR goals and categories within each; provide index cards for people to identify their top five priorities they would like to have the Commission place more emphasis.

▪ **Sustainability Assessment and Action Planning**

The STC grad students had their first session with two City environmental services managers. They are one of the first pilot groups that will be working through all of the actions. With the metrics the Star system uses, the group tried to assign the various City departments with the actions that they applied to; a lot of the items were found to be cross-functional. Their main issue was that there is a lot of interpretation and a lot of detail in addressing the specific items. It would benefit the group to have more time to delve into more of the details.

The next steps would be to get the preliminary scores (utilizing the online form – yes/no). Staff talked about having a joint citizens commissions meeting to get all the relevant commissions (Landmark, Planning, Human Rights, Arts, etc.) to review and provide their feedback. And take this preliminary rating and assessment to a Council study session in May to find out how the Council would want to engage, what some of their priorities are, and how broad of sustainability planning they would like to be doing. Then provide this information at another joint citizens commissions meeting. Staff will send out the step-by-step process to members.

▪ **Staff Updates**

- Nominations for the Polar Bear ‘Paw of Approval’ Award are due March 22. The zoo’s Education Director, John Garner, is trying to obtain the chief scientist from Polar Bear International to present the award, as well as speak to the community about climate change. This particular scientist is really engaged in some meaningful public actions around climate change in Tacoma, and believes he can get his funders to back him significantly.
- Members were reminded to schedule appointments with their assigned Neighborhood Council.

▪ **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

▪ **Objectives for Next Meeting**

- Mandatory recycling research update
- BLUS green building program
- STAR indicator
- Expo survey feedback

▪ **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 3:30 to 5:30 pm, Tacoma Municipal Building North, 733 Market Street, Room 16.