



Meeting Minutes

SUBJECT: Ecology and Environmental Awareness Committee

DATE: March 27, 2008

LOCATION: City Hall, 1st Floor Main Conf. Room

FROM: Paul Wojciechowski, Director of Public Works / City Engineer

ATTENDEES: Cynthia Garnholz, Diane Meyer, Punit Jain, Fran Lang, Martha Kohn, M. Lee Gerdelman Patti Griesbaum, Marc Lopata, Paul Wojciechowski

ABSENT: Sonya Gierada (Clayton Green Club), Antonella Rastelli, Anne Bishop

The meeting was called to order by Punit at 5:00p.

A motion to approve the minutes from January 24, 2008, was made, seconded and approved by all present.

Presentation by Mayor Goldstein on the Mayors Climate Conference

Mayor Goldstein provided a brief overview of her experiences at the Mayors Climate Conference in Seattle last fall. She stated they stressed the need to focus action on a local level. She also indicated they stressed the importance of "Green Collar" jobs, that is, jobs associated with retrofitting homes with environmental oriented upgrades as well as green building. There is a need for these jobs to be kept in the USA. Attendees were to have been for municipalities of 45,000 or larger, however, Clayton is taking huge steps in this area that made the trip very beneficial for her. Al Gore and President Clinton were both speakers at the conference.

Mayor Goldstein stated that Clayton has made significant steps from a municipal point of view in the green initiative by being one of the first cities in Missouri to sign on to the climate agreement, and including a requirement of LEED Silver certification of new city buildings. In addition, the city added LEED certification as a public benefit in PUD's. These among others are helping Clayton to be a leader.

Linda noted that Clayton has been able to work on 9 of the 12 actions listed in the Mayors Climate Agreement. The first item listed that deals with inventories of emissions. This item was discussed with other local mayors and since the time and cost of these inventories are so great for individual municipalities, thought will be given to a group effort.

Mayor Goldstein then passed around information from other cities on greening efforts.

Ameren Pure Power

Paul stated that he investigated buying green certificates from Ameren in their "Pure Power" program. He made contact at Ameren with Mike Focht, who provided information on usage and a cost for purchasing certificates at several levels based on a 2 percent of total usage (3,902,826 kWh total usage) of 78,057 for 78 blocks at \$15 per block totaling \$1,171. This is the entry level participation by Ameren. Punit and Marc both suggested Paul investigate other certificate dealers to see if their rates are lower. Marc also indicated that Ameren was a heavy coal emissions user and that is an issue for him.

Paul will investigate this further and get back to the group for use of the EEAC budget of \$2,000 for buying renewable energy certificates. This will get at another element in the Mayors Climate Agreement that Clayton has not addressed as yet.

Green Web Page

Paul stated that the web page was up and running thanks to Judy Kekich and Jason Jaggi. Staff will be adding information as it expands our green initiatives and education on green initiatives.

Earth Day Activities

Paul stated that next meeting will be at the Center of Clayton and the committee will judge the poster contest. The next meeting is April 24, 2008, at 5:00p. The Earth Day Event in Clayton is on Saturday April 26, 2008, in Shaw Park.

Questionnaire for Businesses and Restaurant Recycling

Paul was given a list of businesses in the City of Clayton that recycle. This was provided by Allied Waste. There are not many businesses, so there is a great target for businesses than need help.

CFL's

Paul was informed by a CFL manufacturer that there is no Missouri law against putting CFL's in the trash; however, Viola is the only company in St. Louis that provided recycling service for the CFL's. Marc stated that a product for grinding fluorescent bulbs is available and should be looked into.

Water Capture

Marc asked about the possibility of capturing rainwater for use in City watering operations. Paul will check on this item.

Bike St. Louis Ribbon Cutting

Paul stated that the Bike St. Louis ribbon cutting will take place at 11:00a in Clayton on May 8, 2008. This event will be at the Metrolink Station in Clayton. A news release was provided to committee members.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 24, 2008 at 5:00p. The meeting will be at the Center of Clayton and the committee will judge the posters submitted for the Clayton Earth Day Poster Contest.

cc: Lenore Toser-Aldaz, Acting City Manager
June Waters, City Clerk