

TOSC Climate Protection Citizens' Advisory Committee
May 5, 2010
Minutes

In attendance: Members—Sharman Russell, Jim Kerstetter, Jim Goodkind, Allyson Siwik, Debaaura James. Sustainability Director, Nick Sussillo. Community—Jamie Thompson, Gordon West, Terry Matelson, Kurt Albershardt

Minutes from the last regular meeting and the monthly meeting were read. Sharman made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting and of the special meeting. Jim Goodkind seconded the motion. The minutes for both meeting were approved as read.

The new Director of Sustainability, Nick Sussillo, was welcomed on board. The committee and community members celebrated the new Office of Sustainability. At the final signing of the EECBG, which funds the office, there were several errors that needed to be revised, such as deliverable dates. Several of our programs, such as the residential energy efficiency rebate program and neighborhood blitz were erroneously left out of the final grant agreement. Nick apprised us of the modifications that he intends to propose, which will allow us to better meet the needs of the community and to allow for contracting with a proven grant-writer to sustain our program. His first priority will be advertising the residential energy efficiency program coordinator and then the administrative assistant. The offices at the County Convention Center are not yet ready for occupancy. The fiscal agreement between the city and county concerning the Office of Sustainability were discussed.

Discussion on the expected interaction between the new Office of Sustainability and this committee. Mr. Sussillo formerly served on the Climate Protection Committee and officially resigned due to his recent appointment as Director of Sustainability. Upon accepting his resignation from the committee, a discussion commenced concerning the possibility of reconfiguring the committee now that our role has changed to less planning and more advisory to the Office of Sustainability. There was a lengthy discussion about inviting the many task forces and committees that have recently emerged to address various aspects of sustainability to join forces or at least to communicate/collaborate officially so that we aren't duplicating services. Perhaps the creation of a "green stakeholders" group. (The title, "SC-GC Sustainability Council" was bantered about...) The Climate Protection Committee members were asked to think about this proposal for the next meeting, and Nick offered his office to be the clearing-house for these stakeholders until something more permanent emerges. In the meantime, Nick was urged to act on deadlines set by the grant by searching county-wide for the expert advice he needs to complete these tasks.

Nick announced that he would be appearing on the Morning Show on May 14. He also announced the Food Security meeting with Terry Brunner from the USDA between 2 and 4 p.m. at the Convention Center on May 7.

NM Economic Development Dept (EDD): Stakeholders will be planning for the July meeting with state officials between now and July.

Review of the special meeting of the Climate Protection Committee to discuss federal climate change legislation: Because proposed legislation is currently falling apart, the committee seized the opportunity to declare that it would not currently concern itself with trying to get City Council buy-in to federal issues. Instead, members agreed that because our Climate Action Plan was well-received by the City Council, we would focus on our local successes.

Brewer Hill update: The applications are now out from the Planning and Zoning Committee for individuals interested in living in the new “green” housing development. Nick also announced that he was invited to the next Planning and Zoning meeting.

Get to Allyson any additional changes to the Climate Action Plan progress report. We’ll wait for Mary to return to schedule the presentation to the Town Council.

The next meeting will be on June 2nd.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debaura James