

3-2-2011 TOSC Climate Protection Committee NOTES

Members Present: Mary Stoecker, Allyson Siwik, Jim Goodkind, Frank Drysdale, Debaura James, Linda Thompson, and Sam Castello. Community members: Cissy McAndrew, Van Clothier, Denise Smith, Chuck Fuller, and Peter Burrows.

Chairperson, Mary Stoecker called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. Sam Costello made the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting in January as read. Allyson Siwik seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Van clothier of Stream Dynamics made a presentation on water conservation. He proposed that the committee write a \$100,000 grant proposal to build 100 projects at average cost of \$1000. Curb cuts, basins, cisterns, greywater, and road-drainage. Van gave a presentation showing how we have changed the watersheds by our system of roads. Van suggests that all of the water wasted, with some curb cuts, could be shunted from the storm sewers and road-ways to created wetlands. Van demonstrated how greywater systems could be installed on private property. This can benefit the growth of food, shade, esthetic plants. The group asked questions, including the cost of cisterns. Water Smart grants from BIA might be a choice for next week. Water Conservation Planning money might be sought through the NM Finance Authority. The Regional Planning Organization (RPO) could be another source to get some highway funds for these projects. Van was given the feedback that this seems like a very good fit for both the Office of Sustainability and the Climate Protection task-force.

Allyson Siwik presented the Water Sector section of the Climate Action Plan Amendment. She outlined the goals and objectives, which include improving the energy efficiency of water infrastructure, reducing water use at the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) , i.e.,less laundry-to-landscape water, implementing renewable energy projects at well-fields and WWTP, and providing a sustainable water supply at low cost for the community. She outlined proposed actions to accomplish this goal, which includes a revision of the 1991 Water Conservation Plan for the town of Silver City. Many of Van's proposed activities are included in the proposed action. The subgroup will be getting together again soon and this group was asked to give them input in the next couple of weeks. The goal is to have the proposal down to one page by next meeting.

Office of Sustainability Update: Denise Smith announced that they met with the state Green Jobs Task Force and has been partnering with Deming to help the city with large scale solar projects. Nick will be lobbying at the Federal level for programs which support sustainability. Denise advised us of the grants the office is pursuing. Under home weatherization, 200 out of 450 houses have been retrofitted with 25 ready to go. More applications are needed from low income (lower than \$45K) sector. Denise will send the information and flyer which will be forwarded to members.

We will table the solar rights proposal so that we can discuss it in depth. Mary asked for an email dialogue on this subject.

The public was asked to give their input and to ask questions. Mr. Bowers asked about before and after evaluation of the homes that have been weatherized. Chuck Fuller presented on behalf of the Recycling

Committee. There will be an e-waste collection again this year at Earth Day. He is working on a deal with a business to collect a large amount of electronic waste and has asked the committee to help advertise to businesses to bring their unused electronics, CFLs, and scrap metal. Mary asked him to email the flier which she will get out. Cissy reported that the Solar Energy Association-Silver City Chapter will meet Friday, March 4th, 5:30 to 6:30 in Isaacs back room. SWNM green Chamber is hosting the first Green Drinks event, which will be meeting March 11th at the same venue at 5:30. We are pursuing a green. Good responses to the legislative calls to action and they're listening to the constituents. Green chamber is staffing the Visitor's Center on the weekends and have seen 342 people in Feb, compared to 181 in January. Habitat is getting ready to build. The new home will be LEED certified, NM Built Green, and Energy Star-rated.

Mary has asked for volunteers for the Indicator Update and will email a request .

March 24th or 26th, the film "The Economics of Happiness" will be shown

The next meeting will be April 6th from 5 to 6:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debaura James