

4/6/11 TOS Task Force Climate Protection

Members in attendance: Mary Stoecker, Allyson Siwik, Linda Thompson, Sam Castello, and Debraura James. Others in attendance were Nick Succillo, Denise Smith, and John Crow.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by chair, Mary Stoecker.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Some corrections: guest in attendance, Mr. Burrows rather than "Bowers". Sam Castello rather than "Costello". Linda made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Allyson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Two vacancies now exist in the task force. There was an informal discussion concerning filling those vacancies.

Discussion:

Water Conservation recommendation: Allyson presented the recommendations from the water subcommittee. There has been no update on the town's strategic water plan in many years. The subcommittee recommends that we focus on water conservation in addition to energy-saving activities. By scaling back our water use by 15% in the municipal/industrial sector, we could save 458 acre-feet of water. Already by repairing water leaks throughout the municipality since 2000, we have reduced our water use. Additional recommendations were in reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, electricity use, and as a result, costs for treating and pumping water. The Task Force reviewed the rationale, greenhouse gas emission reduction plan, cost and energy benefits, and the implementation plan and made suggestions. There were suggestions about municipalities already conserving water/energy and members offered to research such plans. There was discussion on the need to educate the public on household water conservation. The next step for their recommendations is that they have been sent for edit to Jim Kerstetter, review by Office of Sustainability to make sure we haven't overlooked anything. Nick suggested that we then meet with Peter Russell (town planner) and Mr. Isqueda (public works) and GRIP to fine-tune the recommendations. Allyson was asked to bring the revised recommendation to the May meeting for our review. This recommendation will need to be finalized and ready to present in June to the Town Council in companion with our Annual Update.

Office of Sustainability Update:

Nick gave the following report:

450 homes have now been energy-audited and weatherized. The residential effort will continue for another 350 homes. The EV plug-in Solar Parking Structure to be built in the Visitor Center Parking lot is underway. There will be a metal roof under Solar Panels.

Groundbreaking will begin in June for the solar array which will provide electricity for the wastewater treatment plant and the municipal wells closest to the plant.

He shared a report from the U.S. Global Change Research Program of environmental changes we can probably expect in the future. He recommends that there needs to begin guiding municipal leaders and helping citizens prepare for adaptation to these changes.

Denise inserted that all #1-7 plastics can be recycled, as announced by Terri Timme.

Allyson reports that she arranged to present the film, "The Economics of Happiness", (Transition Towns, 2010) will be shown publicly on May 12 at 7 p.m. She asked if our Task Force would be one of the co-sponsors. A panel discussion will follow the film. We will use this as way to test the waters in the community for its openness to transitioning to a more localized economy. There are so many things happening in our community currently, but they are largely uncoordinated. A discussion followed, including having a senior citizen who lived through the depression included on the panel. There was discussion about how we can publicize this film to the non-usual suspects. It was agreed that low-

income people are already feeling fear in response to the economic downturn. Allyson will put together a group of people to plan how to best advertise this event.

Linda announced that the state of Oregon is pursuing the end of the plastic bag. A video is available on how this issue has been promoted. Mary reported that the P & Z committee asked last night about the progress we are making bringing this issue locally. Linda was asked to make that video available to us in the near future so that we can further address this issue.

Earth Day weekend April 22, 23: "Green Fire" will be shown on Thurs. evening. On Saturday at Penny Park, there will be e-waste recycling, including CFL's, booths, entertainment.

Solar Rights Code: Mary refreshed our memory on recent email dialogues concerning proposed changes to the new Solar Rights Code. Mary encouraged the committee members to read the newly published brochure on Solar Rights in the revised Land Use Code. Sam suggested that we should think about our goal and intended audience for the recommendations. The city council committed to revisit the land use code in six months after the passing.

Next meeting will be May 4th. At 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debaura James