

Green Team Meeting October 2, 2008

Attendance: Hansen, VanDyke, Spencer, Haddox, Woodruff, Boroff, Hall, Wonderlin, Harris

Wonderlin called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Item 1: Minutes of the September Green Team meeting were approved without change.

Item 2: Report from City Manager

Dan Boroff reported on the following:

a. Fire Station: Construction is now underway. The contract is nearly complete, and they have restored the heating system as recommended by the Green Team (GT).

b. Energy Audit: CTO is the Pittsburgh firm that received the contract. They did an initial audit for only \$9500, not the expected \$80,000. They are considering the use of inductive lighting for the City. They have begun work even though the contract is not complete (expected to be done by 3rd Wednesday of October). When asked if the GT could meet with them during their visits Dan said that he would see about setting this up.

c. Gas Drilling: The GT will work with the gas-drilling people as this issue moves forward. Concerns about the use of water and treatment of wastewater were discussed, as was the possible ways that this gas development might benefit Morgantown.

We asked how this drilling proposal would fit into the Clean City concept and if this conflicted with the Climate Protection Agreement that the City signed. Dan responded that it was his impression that the use of natural gas was preferred to other fuels. He also stated that its use was second on a list of preferred alternatives to energy, after increased conservation and efficiency.

There was discussion of the use of royalties to cover the cost of conversion of the City fleet to natural gas. This would be \$2000-3000 per vehicle. Dan pointed out that the airport was one of the proposed sites and the royalties there would have to relate to the airport in some way (FAA rules). Tibbs Run property is another potential site for drilling and there were concerns mentioned about the use of water from that stream in this case.

What are the likely revenues? Apparently, current leases would net about \$2500 per acre over 3 years for prospecting. If successful, the well could pay royalties to landowners at the rate of 18%. The actual lease language will come to the City and GT soon. The idea of doing something beneficial with any royalties was discussed.

The issue of the geological implications of the Marcellus Shale extraction was discussed. The GT should get an expert from the DOE or USGS to address the method and implications of this extraction method.

There was also discussion of the expected announcement by the EPA that Monongalia County will be in non-attainment for small particulates in terms of air quality limits. Don Spencer mentioned the City's desire to have more air quality monitors in the region, to augment the one at the airport. We were asked to consider ways that all of us can lower emissions and make small contributions to air quality. Of course, the main pollution contribution comes from the many coal burning power plants in our region, and to the west of us.

Item 3: Green Vision and Comprehensive Plan (CP)

Evan Hansen reported on the current Comprehensive Plan. He evaluated the 1998 plan and prepared a comparison document that supported his presentation (attached). He also suggested opportunities for our participation in the 2008 plan, in the various categories outlined in the previous plan.

Discussion: Chris Haddox discussed the fact that there is a considerable environmental cost embodied in the structures of existing buildings.

It was suggested that we contact neighborhood associations to discuss their visions connected with the CP. Bill Wonderlin suggested that we might come up with categories of concern that might help these associations with their plans.

Don suggested that we need a section on air quality in the new CP.

Item 4: Membership and Attendance Policy of Green Team

No report.

Item 5: Update for Green Team Website

Chris Haddox reported that the website is still the same but they are working on it.

Item 6: Reports from Standing Committees

The Green Architecture Committee met and discussed the idea of getting bankers involved and interested in the activities of the GT. They might help promote Green building practices from the standpoint of funding.

Item 7: New Business

Dan Boroff will be meeting with the lighting group next week.

Don Spencer mentioned the noticeable disappearance of large trees from the Morgantown area. He discussed the efforts of other cities to plant more trees and suggested we should look into that.

John Hall mentioned that many communities now offer Green Power to customers wishing to use air generated or cleaner energy sources. He suggested the City might request this be made available to Morgantown.

We discussed the role of the standing committees in the development of the strategic plan. It was suggested that they might indicate what they would like to see.

What other members can we get to join the Green Team? Harris will contact John Garlow, who is a builder completing an energy-neutral dwelling, to see if he is interested in being involved.

Next meeting is November 6 at 4pm in the Public Safety building.

Adjourned at 5:40 pm