

Green Team Meeting

June 5, 2008

Attendance: Reilly, Boroff, France, Hall, VanDyke, Spencer, Haddox, Spencer, Tennant, Kotcon, Woodruff, Kirby, Lindsey, Brown, Harris

Chris Haddox served as Acting Chair and called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM

Item 1: Minutes of the may meeting were corrected and approved by consensus.

Item 2: Report from City Manager

A. Fire Station

Dan Boroff reported that the bids for the Fire Station were let and only two were submitted: both for about \$ 3.6 million, well above the \$ 2.8 million in the original estimate. These bids are not affordable and reevaluation and another bidding process is needed. We know that other fire stations have been built in the region for about \$200/sq. ft. and this is well above that figure.

Chris Haddox suggested that next time we state that only LEED certified contractors need apply. We discussed how the bids were advertised and the possibility of targeting some experienced contractors in the Pittsburgh area.

Don Spencer discussed the need to do better on the electrical efficiency points. We discussed the use of fewer windows and more insulation as doable, less expensive options.

It was suggested that the Green Architecture Committee might take a look at the original plans to look for economies, and meet with Terry Hough to discuss the plans.

B. Performance Contract

Bids were to be advertised tomorrow, and then the qualifications of the companies will be assessed. Perhaps the Green Team might be involved in looking at their credentials. The next step will be negotiation for the scope and the price of the contract, and should be completed by September or October.

Item 3. Chair Updates

Chris Haddox mentioned the DSIRE database that lists incentives, programs for and examples of green building practices. The Green Building Act is being considered by the legislature during interims and Barbara Fleischauer is sponsoring a bill to use the LEED standards.

Chris discussed the fact that LEED is being revised and the revision process is open to public input on its website. They are going to a 100 point scale with some weighting possible to take into account regional variances.

Item 4: Energy Committee Report

Jim Kotcon reported that the committee met to discuss the Fire Station (see above). They also discussed a hydropower project proposed by Brookfield Power, which would install turbines on some locks and dams on the Monongahela River. These installations would generate some power for local use. We then discussed the Low Impact Hydropower Institute, an organization that promotes sensible hydropower with concern for water quality, fisheries and the environment.

The other item discussed was purchasing policies for computers and peripherals that would be Star Certified. Boroff said this will be discussed as part of the Performance Audit.

Item 5: Recycling

Larry Harris reported on a meeting of the Recycling Committee (see attached minutes for details). In summary, the committee discussed how the Solid Waste Authority has functioned in recycling, and what our Committee can do to help with what is already going on. We came up with the recommendation that the City work with the SWA to set up more recycling centers within the City boundaries. Further, the curbside

recycling should mirror what is accepted at the recycling centers and recycling at the curb should happen every week.

Don Spencer discussed a field trip he made to look at the MURF recycling center on Neville Island near Pittsburgh. An Irish company called Greenstar operates this single stream facility which has the capability to sort 17 items from a mixture.

We discussed the fact that the University is doing well in recycling of building waste.

Other:

- a. There is a company that specializes in recycling of carpeting
- b. Items not currently recycled: fluorescent light bulbs (mercury hazard) and telephones.

Item 6: Transportation

Chris introduced two new members to the Green Team: Nelson France, a WVU student and Bob Lindsey, an architect.

We discussed the new sidewalk project on High Street and the need to alleviate traffic congestion during construction.

Item 7: Green Architecture

The committee discussed the Fire Station also, and ideas to get grants for interns to work with the City on green projects. The website improvements are now underway and people should begin to send items worthy of posting.

It was suggested that we post local green projects on the website so that local citizens can see what can be done. Chris mentioned a Green Remodeling Guide, which is more for professionals than the average homeowner.

Dan Boroff mentioned that the City Council voted to join the Green Building Council, sending in their application already. The Green Team heartily commended the City on this action.

Item 8: New Business

We discussed the issue of Green Team membership and attendance at meetings. After much discussion Will Reilly agreed to come back with a proposal that we can further discuss.

Don Spencer passed out an extensive list of which also contains a list of bills of interest before Congress. In addition, he mentioned that several popular sources of information such as Leonardo DiCaprio's, "The Eleventh Hour", are worth seeing.

Chris Haddox added that the City of Syracuse, NY has some very nice information about green business opportunities.

Finally, the University has released the WVU Advanced Energy Initiative (Imagine WVU), in which coal is prominently mentioned. We discussed coal reserves with the question: is there really only 25 years of coal remaining at current rates of mining in the Appalachians?

Next meeting will be July 10.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm

Minutes submitted by Larry Harris, Secretary