

Green Team Minutes
April 2, 2009

Attendance: Will Reilly, Chris Haddox, Nate Askins, Don Spencer, Sheila Westfall, Jim Kotcon, Bill Wonderlin, Chris Van Dyke, Brent Bailey, Dan Boroff, John Hall, Linda Durfee, Trevor Lloyd, Larry Harris

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

Item 1. Minutes of the March 5 Green Team meeting were approved without change.

Item 2. City Manager's Report.

The new fire station is on schedule with potential completion date in May.

The City's energy audit and Performance Phase Contracting is ongoing.

Dan reported on the Stimulus Package from the Federal Government. The City will get \$154,000 and are now working on how to get these funds out to the community. Money is also given to the State and some of that may be directed to cities. They are looking at projects involving the chiller at the ice rink and airport air conditioning system, but the energy savings exceed the cost of the changes for these items. The City is looking at a country-wide program that has \$400 million available, but which will be very competitive.

Dan discussed the switch to the 2009 IEC codes by the State. After they adopt these standards the cities can do so.

Item 3. Bill welcomed Brent Bailey, activist, and Trevor Lloyd, City Engineer to the Green Team.

Item 4. Green Construction Workshop

A. Chamber and Green Team will invite larger developers (commercial and residential) to attend a workshop this summer.

B. Broad Community effort will follow in the fall, where the focus will be how homeowners can make their homes more energy efficient. Small businesses will be invited also.

Item 5. Website Update

MorgantownGT.com was discussed by Chris Van Dyke. The minutes are in place and he is looking for suggestions and materials for the site. It was suggested that something on the Fire station would be appropriate. Will try to get some pictures and description up.

Bill mentioned the GT letter to support FODC's toxic inventory plan was sent.

Item 6: Comprehensive Plan

Chris Fletcher is the Planning Coordinator for the plan and comes aboard this year. We will be selecting a firm and estimating costs for the plan. GT has about 9 months to supply input.

Sheila then gave an update on the plan (see her document for details).

Green Space: We currently have 450 acres of parkland in Morgantown, which is 3% of the total area. For comparison, New York City has 18% parkland, showing how little we have. A goal would be to increase the parklands to 10% of the area by 2020. Some things to look at: Paper streets and greenways, pocket parks on tax delinquent properties, utility owned lands, School Board lands, the old University High property, Hirshman park in Suncrest, Big Survey on Grafton Road, land around creeks.

We discussed several ideas such as plug-ins for electric cars, rewards or certification of green builders, and keeping green standards when making contracts with utilities. We also discussed the need to have more green spaces: a park behind Krogers is in the works and one in the flood plain in Suncrest. It was suggested that Sheila work with Boparc on such issues.

We discussed promotion of green roofs, burying utility lines (protects trees) and suggest the following:

- Zero net loss of Green Space as a goal
- Sodding of open lots
- Zoning regulations to include green space

Green Architecture: In 2006 the Green Building Resolution was passed, which included goals to retrofit existing city buildings for LEED standards. We might promote green roofs, put links to green building practices on our website, evaluate the greenness of new buildings, and allow tax breaks for compliance. There is need for the city to help recycling efforts for apartments, to recycle demolition and construction materials, and conduct a survey for a composting facility.

Item 7. Committee Reports

Energy Committee met in March and discussed the following:

- a. Implementation of the US Mayors Climate Resolution in 2009.
- b. Need to meet with the Energy Audit firm to find out how progress will fit into this resolution.
- c. Proposed hydropower projects on the 3 local locks and dams; run of river hydropower.

Green Architecture

The report from this committee should be prepared for the Comprehensive Plan. The plans for 2009 include: Green Building Conference; completion of a pamphlet for the City Planners office, intended to help homeowners and builders with green practices; streamlining the permit process for green builders; energy efficient mortgages (see Cambridge Energy Alliance) and establishment of a database of local green building resources.

Chris Haddox suggested the establishment of a green section at the library, and perhaps a "Green Night at the Library" event. Chris will contact the librarian, see what green books are already available and see what future events might be possible. A brochure which lists green resources was also discussed.

Item 8. New Business

Don Spencer discussed the need for air quality monitors at locations relevant to where people reside. He mentioned that he will attend the Green Cities Meeting in Portland, OR, which will be a 5 day event.

We discussed David McClain as a potential GT member.

Next meeting: Thursday May 7, 2009

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Submitted by Larry Harris, Secretary