Morgantown Green Team Thursday January 6, 2011 Morgantown Public Library

Attendance: Trevor Lloyd, Will Reilly, Chris Haddox (Chair), Don Spencer, Bill Wonderlin, Tony Buscher (<u>Antony.Buscher@constellationenergy.com</u>), Tim Stanko, Ella Belling, Megan Nedzinski, Steven Woodruff (<u>steven.woodruff@frontier.com</u>), Richard Dennis, Jim Kotcon, Ryan Hess, Pat Cutberg (visitor), Terrence Moore, Larry Harris.

Chris Haddox called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

Item1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Item 2. Chris introduced the new City Manager, Terrence Moore, who addressed the group explaining his previous managerial experience in Los Cruces, NM and Sebastian, FL. He mentioned the building of a Los Cruces City Hall with LEED certification, and the potential to do the same here. He would expect to work closely with the Green Team in such endeavors, and would expect that such efforts would lead to similar actions in the community.

Jim Kotcon asked about which metrics would be use to determine energy savings. He said that he previously hired a sustainability officer to oversee such efforts. Will Reilly asked if such a hire pays for itself. Mr. Moore replied that this individual did identify significant cost savings, which would result in a cost turnaround in 5 years or so. Tim Stanko mentioned the need to protect green spaces in Morgantown, as such spaces are being overdeveloped. He mentioned that we need to protect local watersheds, property rights and the aesthetics of the region. Mr. Moore agreed and closed with the promise to work with us on energy reduction and other sustainable efforts.

Item 3: Committee Reports

The Architecture Committee and the Energy Committee did not meet.

Item 4. Constellation Energy Report

Tony Buscher was in attendance to answer GT questions. Jim Kotcon asked whether his study indicates a reduction in greenhouse gases as is called for in the US Mayors Climate Agreement that Morgantown joined. Mr. Buscher discussed transportation, which has been a difficult thing to measure for the entire fleet. He estimated that electricity usage has increased 15% from 2007-2010, and their study indicated that efficiency savings were of the order of 5%.

Chris Haddox asked how are we to get to a baseline database to compare with future usage changes? Trevor Lloyd answered that progress has been slow in this issue but could be addressed sooner with more interns. Also, the power company has agreed to provide the City with usage summaries from now on. There are 43 traffic lights whose energy usage might be estimated by changes in bulb wattage. It was suggested that the Energy Committee might make a list of the types of data collected as we move forward.

Tony discussed the data collection going on between April 2010 and March 2011, which will be in the report. He emphasized that the greenhouse gas reductions that the GT wants to know may not be fully measured by his study.

Item 5. 2011 Agenda for Green Team

The following items were mentioned: a new City Hall, Green Directory, Street Lighting study, community outreach and a draft for the comprehensive plan. Don Spencer commented that this plan should be done in house, not outsourced, so as to have ownership of the document.

Item 5: New Business

Ella Belling asked about how Xmas trees and leaf bags will be collected, suggesting that there are ways to keep these out of landfills. Don suggested bringing this up at the Solid Waste meeting.

Don mentioned the Marcellus Shale bills that are in the legislative process, one in the Judiciary Committee (a good bill) and emphasized the need for a TDS standard.

Chris Haddox mentioned that an IEBG Summary would be presented at the next Council meeting. Megan suggested we keep the green spirit going and brought up some problems with establishing energy conservation measures in the current environment. She suggested that since we are behind the times with the building codes that an incremental effort to improve efficiency is the way to go. Current problems are: 1. Banks are not loaning money for energy reduction costs on homes. 2. Appraisals do not take energy efficiency into account when valuing homes, 3. Builders are using false data to resist measures to increase energy efficiency. Much discussion followed.

Ella Belling asked for advice on a Rail/Trail project to renovate a 1907 Coal and Coke building in Masontown. They want to eventually convert it use as a washroom for the trail users and they need to stabilize the structure now. Chris suggested contacting the Center for Civic Engagement and some other organizations for help.

Green drinks are next Friday. Meeting adjourned at 5:52.

Submitted by Larry Harris, Secretary