

Morgantown Green Team
Thursday April 7, 2011
Morgantown Public Library

Attendance: Will Reilly, Chris Haddox (Chair), Don Spencer, Laird Knight, Steven Woodruff, Richard Dennis, Jim Kotcon,, John Hall, Nate Askins,, Chris Van Dyke, Lauren Brennan, Damien Davis (ddavis@cityofmorgantown.com, Larry Harris (troutguy2@frontier.com)

Chris Haddox called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

Item1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Item 2. Chris introduced Damien Davis, City Engineer, Lauren Brennan (Sunnyside Up) and Laird Knight, an interested participant.

Item 3: Committee Reports

Energy: Jim Kotcon discussed the report he made to City Council. Data from the Airport, City Garage and the Public Safety Building indicate a 25% reduction in energy usage. This was greater than the 9% called for by the Mayors Climate Protection agreement. The savings came from:

- High efficiency light bulbs
- Increased fuel efficiency and decreased miles driven by fleet
- Discussed the need for incentives for City employees to save energy, and the plans to have a Sustainability Coordinator on staff. He also mentioned the City Planning Commission and evaluation of energy impacts.

It was suggested that with the savings, the City may qualify for the Mayor's Award for Best Small Cities.

We talked about the cost savings that might be accomplished if the City fleet ran on natural gas. They used to have some vehicles and refueling stations. We discussed the nature of the current fleet and whether mileage and gas usage data could be obtained.

ACTION: Chris Van Dyke will inquire about available fleet data at the City Garage.

Item 4: Street Lights

The City Manager is still working with Allegheny Power on this issue, but the company has changed personnel and is delaying discussions.

Previous survey data collected by Ginger was half complete. There are 969 lights in Morgantown. They will have 4 interns this year so the City should be able to complete the survey.

Item 5: Residential energy study

Rich Dennis discussed the plan for a baseline energy study for residential homes and commercial businesses. We discussed whether Constellation Energy might do a survey. Will Reilly suggested that electric usage for both should be available from Allegheny. Maybe they might send out a survey with our questions with the bills.

ACTION: City will ask Allegheny Power for data

Item 6: Green Spaces in Morgantown

We discussed the fact that Morgantown is built heavily and not much Green Space remains. We should catalog the existing green areas. We should encourage the Planning Commission to include Green Spaces in their plan. Laird Knight pointed out that steep, unbuildable slopes might be ideal for connectors to bike trails. He volunteered to get a meeting together with the following:

- Urban Landscape Commission
- Tree Board (Dave Barnett)
- Friends of Deckers Creek
- Rail Trail Group (MRTC)
- BOPARC and MUB
- Sierra Club (Kotcon)
- Main Street Morgantown (Terry Cutright)

Finally, Rich Dennis discussed the composter project.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:45.

Submitted by Larry Harris, Secretary