

September 2011 Green Team Minutes

Attendees: Lauren Brennan, Justin Belton, Trevor Lloyd, Steven Woodruff, Laird Knight, Bill Wonderlin, Chris Haddox

Chris Haddox calls the meeting to order at 4:10

Visitor introduction: Justin Belton from Sunnyside Up working on a Green Initiative. Working on the development/ employment of green roofs, solar energy, recycling, paving, etc.

1. Lauren introduces Slow Food WV, a new organization in Morgantown with the mission of raising awareness about the health, economic, and community benefits of supporting local agriculture, gardening, and enjoying a home cooked meal with family and friends.
2. Energy Efficient WV update: Collaborative work with utility providers to develop a more comprehensive efficiency plan and the creation of a coalition for green power in order to make the suggestion to Mon Power of rather than raising rates, raise efficiency standard to provide cost saving, efficient power to citizens.

There will be a workshop for efficiency standards at the old Mall on September 19. Doors open at 5:30, presentation begins at 6:00

3. City Fleet update: Trevor has provided a complete manifest of city vehicles to appropriate individuals
4. Street Lighting/ Allegheny Electric meeting update: Interns have finished the fieldwork, they are now in the process of cataloging all of the information to determine how many LED lights will be necessary to replace existing lights. When this information has been compiled into a cohesive package it will be presented to the Morgantown Green Team in order to create an action plan.

No update on the franchise agreement from First Energy

The street lights on Grant St are owned by the city and use LED lights.

ACTION: Trevor will be checking on the metering of these lights to determine efficiency standards.

5. Green Space/ connectivity update: The Urban Landscape Commission shares the Green Team's enthusiasm about trail connectivity throughout Morgantown.

Laird's action plan

- Obtain city GIS maps to determine where green spaces exists, without getting into ownership and gritty details. Simply to begin imagining the dream plan with trail connectivity and city park/ recreation areas.
- Draw up a number of plans to present the city
- Use funding available through alternative transportation initiatives

It may be beneficial to form a Green Space Coalition including City Commissions and advisory boards as well as Ella Belling and the Mon Trails Conservancy. In addition, West Virginia University may be interested in being a stakeholder.

Former Green Teamer Greg was a pioneer in this agenda item and being that we're not trying to reinvent the wheel, the Green Team will make an effort to get Greg into Morgantown to present helpful information.

ACTION: Bill will try to get a hold of Greg to see when he may be available to visit Morgantown.

ACTION: Lauren will be attending the next Urban Landscape Commission meeting to build upon the connection made by Laird to push this agenda item forward.

6. City Modeling update: Chris Haddox has been looking into what other City Green Teams are doing. The Fayetteville, WV site has a link for Homer, Alaska that can be used as a guide for the Morgantown Green Team.

One important objective is to raise moral and ignite passion among all city employees and those working in the public sector of Morgantown. This can be achieved through positive PR and promoting the great things the City of Morgantown does regularly.

ACTION: Meet with Susan, the new city PR employee (Trevor)?

ACTION: Chris will follow up with the Homer, Alaska Green Team

7. Baseline/ best practices update: Chris introduces ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives), an organization that is referenced in the Fayetteville, WV city site. Perhaps becoming a member of such an organization would assist the Green Team in the creation of a city efficiency plan. ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability could provide a pre-existing template to show what additional information should be cataloged in a comprehensive efficiency plan.

ACTION: Chris will be following up to determine what would be necessary to get a program like this up and running in Morgantown.

8. Trevor update: Good news and Bad news, good news first.

- a. After three years, the Northside Fire Station construction is complete and it has achieved a LEED Certification. This is the first LEED Certified City building in Morgantown. (Positive PR!)

- b. Rail Trail update: it appears as though the trail will not be reopening until the summer of 2012.

9. Tossed around the idea of having a different meeting time for those who are unable to get out of work at our 4:00 meeting time.

10. Last bit of sad news: Chris announces that this January marks his 2 year term as Morgantown Green Team Chair. Therefore, we should begin thinking about the New Chair Election

Meeting concludes at 5:20pm