



ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

1290 S. Public Rd. Lafayette, CO 80026

City Council Chambers

Final Minutes

Opening of Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Call to Order

Committee Member Kent Brown called the January meeting to order at 6:32pm in the City Hall Council Chambers at 1290 S. Public Road, Lafayette, CO 80026. The following committee members and members from the public were present: Tracy Phillips, Greg Harper, David Ivener, Mike Simpson, John Chinnery, Deborah Morrison, Jason Schneider, Stacy Lambright, Antoinette Maes and Curt Cheesman.

Committee Minutes

A motion was made by Greg Harper and seconded by John Chinnery to approve the February 12, 2013 minutes as edited. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

No public was in attendance for this meeting.

New Business Items

Welcome New Members

Kent Brown welcomed all of the present new members and also passed along the welcome from the City Councilors.

Building and Planning Commission & Green Building

Various members from the Planning Commission were present including Van Wilgus. Some background information was given to the commission on what the Energy Sustainability Committee has been working on over the past few years, since their inception in 2007. This included the "Green Building" and "Green Business" programs, awarding various mini-grants to schools and non-profit organizations to help kick start their own energy sustainability programs, acquiring e-bike for the City, and installing a car charging station. Moreover, the Energy Sustainability Committee's main goal was conveyed, that being to advise City Council on energy sustainability and to perform community outreach.

The goal for bringing in the Planning Commission is to brainstorm ideas on ways to have the City of Lafayette adopt "green building" programs without discouraging businesses from coming into the community and investing in the City. A handout was disseminated showing what other communities have done and are doing in regards to "green building".

Van Wilgus, from the Planning Commission, informed the Energy Sustainability Committee that no one from the Planning Commission has been before the City Council to advocate any "green" building metrics that could be instituted. However, they have been involved in the revising of the



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City Comprehensive Plan to have a more sustainable focus. The Planning Commission has also met with the City of Lafayette Building Official to discuss the building codes and any possibilities of changing those to be more “green”. Van personally has contacted the larger developers in Lafayette to ask what measures they have taken for their buildings to be more sustainable. Van relayed that the Planning Commission really has no authority to make any changes in the building code or comprehensive plan, so it remains a challenge for the commission to pursue more sustainable options.

The group discussed the possibility of incentivizing “green” development for developers. Philip Patterson, City of Lafayette Community Development Director, addressed the group about the feasibility of offering these types of incentives and the difficulty in regulating building codes in the area and various developments. Philip believes it is quite feasible to do this on an individual homeowner basis, but much more difficult to do with larger scale developers. He also discussed some of the sustainable efforts made by current businesses in the City such as Walmart, Jax, etc. along with the history behind those efforts and how various codes have changed over recent years including the landscape code. The group discussed ways to advocate for increasingly sustainable building to developers. Philip recommended there be some commentary developed by the Energy Sustainability Committee that could be included in the Comprehensive Plan regarding ways to better advocate for “green” building and sustainability.

The committee discussed with the rest of the Planning Commission present how to best focus their efforts moving forward such as whether or not they should focus on changing the building code to include more sustainable requirements or if there are other efforts they should focus on such as advising City staff of sustainable building guidelines they would like to see implemented.

Boulder County’s Environmental Sustainability Matching Grant

Kent discussed the \$2,000 environmental sustainability grant with the group, informing everyone of the deadline to apply, its scope, and the requirements to apply. The deadline to apply is April 23, 2013. The grant is designed for the development of a sustainability plan and includes funds for hiring a part-time sustainability coordinator to help with sustainability efforts, rebates for residents and business, funding more energy advisors, outreach and education, and development of residential and commercial energy codes and policies, green house gas inventories and reduction strategies, climate adaptation work, local food, alternative transportation, and water conservation.

Kent would like to pursue this matching grant to try and secure funding for bicycle racks on Public Road and around the City. He also informed the committee on the plan for Highway 7



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from Public Road to Highway 287 does not include a bike lane or a bypass to get over/under Highway 287. It was suggested that the committee contact the Arts Committee to collaborate on getting bike racks that are more visible than traditional bike racks. Stacy let the committee know there is an option for municipalities to tie into the Boulder County sustainability plan. Louisville, Nederland, and Lyons have expressed interest in tying into Boulder County's plan. Some committee members are interested in getting a baseline test should Lafayette receive the matching grant. Stacy has gotten a ballpark cost for that test and it would be roughly \$20,000. The group discussed the baseline test and joining in with Boulder County's sustainability plan a little further. It was also stated that Boulder County has reduced the home assessments rates. It is now \$90 for residents to get a full home assessment completed. Longmont is incentivizing this assessment by kicking in a LED for those that participate.

Old Business Items

Budget Report & Stacy's Report

The committee budget has \$22,500 remaining in one account and \$10,000 in the other operations account. Money needs to be allocated for the two EV Charging Stations. The committee must put up \$2,906 in matching funds, which is 20%. Two bike racks are going to cost \$780 plus any additional installation costs. The matching grant for EV Charging Stations will be awarded at the end of March. \$2,500 of Stacy's billable costs comes out of the \$25,000 line item, so there is \$7,000 remaining in the operations budget.

A motion was made by Greg Harper and seconded by John Chinnery to allocate \$3,000 as matching funds for EV Charging Stations. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding the items to put money toward and receive matching fund through the grant. That included putting \$2,000 towards bike racks, \$5,000 towards updating the master plan, and \$8,000 towards a sustainability coordinator, totaling \$15,000.

Stacy is preparing for a workshop seminar sponsored by EnergySmart. She is also working with the Library and EnergySmart to put together some marketing materials in a display case at the Library. Stacy brought up the possibility of doing an informational mailing to Lafayette residents similar to Louisville. Discussion took place regarding the money needed for the mailing and whether or not it some money should be included in the matching grant or set aside differently.

A motion was made by Greg Harper and seconded by John Chinnery to allocate \$5,000 for a greenhouse gas inventory and master plan update, \$2,000 towards bike racks, and \$8,000 toward the sustainability coordinator all in hopes of receiving matching funds from the matching grant. The motion passed unanimously.



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A motion was made by Greg Harper and seconded by John Chinnery to allocate \$2,000 for the mailing to get people to attend the energy event on April 17th. The motion passed unanimously.

Green Business

Deborah Morrison briefed the group on the Green Business Program. She has followed up with all of the businesses which have submitted an application for an award and has received logos and content from some of the applicants that can be put on the LESAC website. Deborah continues to prepare for the awards ceremony which will take place on April 16th. She then updated the group on LESAC communication and marketing including press releases, the webpage, etc. and how to work with Debbie Wilmot on those items.

2013 Action Plan

Kent asked everyone how the committee wants to proceed with the City of Lafayette's sustainability plan. It was decided there would be a work group formed to further develop the existing action plan. **David Ivener and Mike Simpson** will be on the work group. They will develop some recommendations moving forward on the action plan. One of the objectives is to facilitate the connection between the master plan and the action plan.

There are some other potential ways to use the money should the sustainability grant be obtained. The committee will continue to discuss those options, but the committee did discuss bike racks and how to increase the number of bike racks in the City along with improving the bike-ability of the City, itself. Ideas included art work contests for bike racks and working with Art Night Out to encourage bike usage.

Kent Brown and Antoinette Maes will meet regarding updating the Master Plan.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mike Simpson and seconded by Greg Harper to adjourn at 9:03pm. The motion passed unanimously.