



Sustainable Broomfield Community Task Force

***Minutes Meeting # 2
May 27, 2009***

Meeting Summary

In the second Task Force meeting the group was presented a project overview and history, a group community visioning activity, a presentation on “What does sustainability mean to you” survey results, and a greenhouse gas inventory presentation of the City and County of Broomfield.

Roll Call

Task Force Members Present: Derek Okubo, Mayor Pat Quinn, Kevin Jacobs, Patrick Tennyson, Beverly Pneuman, Marcia Heiser, Sam Taylor, Irene Lalich, Jeffery Kerrane, Jeffery McPherson, Jean Wilkie, Linda Fahrebruch, Judy Enderle, Roger Kelley, Jini Bates, Geoffrey Urland, Klea Jones, Mark Kuhl, Bryce Isaacson, Jeremy Fancher, Liz Law-Evans, Lisa Moore, David Hastings, Don Dunshee, Jennifer Kerr, Susan MacGregor, Rick Ahrens

Absent: Aaron Loertscher, Felix Fechas, Hal Lunka, Linda Reynolds, Nicholas Fazzini, Jessica Erickson

Others in attendance: Kathy Schnoor, Anu Ramaswami, Debbi Main, Abel Chavez, Anita Davis, Charles Ozaki, Bob Gaiser, Meghan Bernard, Kevin Standbridge

Agenda Minutes

6:30 – Approval of the April 22, 2009 Minutes

6:35 – Overview of what to come

6:38 – Kathy Schnoor: History of the Sustainability Process
2005 Comprehensive Plan updates. Concept of a sustainable community project with NCL and UCD was created in Fall 2008. MWH conducted an evaluation of Broomfield facilities from December 2008 to May 2009. Community engagement was noted as a key priority in the development of the process. Three main goals were developed: define sustainability for the City and County of Broomfield; prioritize where they should focus time, energy and money; and document the process as a Tool-kit for other communities. The National Civic League’s role is to facilitate Task Force meetings and develop a model plan and tool kit for other communities. The University of Colorado Denver is a technical advisor for the Task Force for researching best practices, analyzing data, and helping with community engagement. The whole process is 18 months long: Initiation phase (January – April 2009), Stakeholder phase (April – December 2009), Implementation phase (January – June 2010).

6:55 – Comprehensive Plan Action Steps – Green Broomfield Video

This video (which can be found on the Broomfield website) documents what the City and County of Broomfield has already done to become more “green”.

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The Task Force asked questions and participated in a discussion after the video. It was suggested that Broomfield should look at other cities to see what they are doing to “go green”. It was added to look at other cities but shoot bigger; “we want to be a benchmark, we want it to be something uniquely defined by us”. Another member was concerned about how to bring these programs that are already in place to the resident-at-large. Another member acknowledged that the efforts to date have been substantial, but felt concerned that these efforts have focused on steps taken to upgrade technology and make technologically based “fixes”, without implementing simple and zero- or low-cost conservation measures.

7:30 – Small Group Activity: Visioning Exercise

The Task Force split up into three groups and was asked to answer this question on three sticky notes: “When Broomfield is the model sustainable community, what would be happening?”

The following summarizes the three groups’ main themes they felt were important to sustainability:

Group 1: Recycling and renewable resources (zero waste), reduction in energy, educating the community, alternative transportation models (more walkability), locally produced food, more local businesses, and concern for the wildlife in the community.

Group 2: Community and economic development, community and citizen involvement, recycling with an emphasis on reuse, alternative forms of transportation (biking, walking), agricultural sector is involved, an organic food co-op, concern for air quality, citizens having more awareness, water conservation efforts, and alternative energies.

Group 3: Improved infrastructure accessibility by bike, foot, more education, a focus on reducing waste, locally produced food, continually looking into the future, retrofitting existing buildings for energy efficiency, the city should lead the way as an example for other communities, water conservation, and reducing energy consumption and focus on it coming from more “friendly sources”.

8:15 – “What does sustainability mean to you” Survey Results – UCD Presentation: Meghan Bernard

The results of the three groups (Task Force, Virtual Committee, and Community-At-Large) that took the survey were presented. The survey was meant to qualitatively compare the views of the three groups on their conceptual understanding of sustainability, their program priorities and their values. In a conceptual definition of sustainability, the planet was considered more important than people or prosperity. In action there was more balance between people, prosperity, and planet. Water, energy and green businesses were top priorities for all three groups.

8:30 – Greenhouse Gas Accounting – UCD Presentation: Abel Chavez

A presentation was given on the greenhouse gases the City and County of Broomfield emitted in 2007. The data was separated into buildings energy use, transportation tail pipe emissions, and materials and waste emissions. The group discussed the data presented with questions on the calculations and how Broomfield compares to Denver and the rest of

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the state. The total community wide greenhouse gas emissions were 1.19 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (mt-CO₂e). In 2007, the per capita emissions were 22.1 mt-CO₂e, which was close to the state average of 25.2 mt-CO₂e. The building sector contributed the majority of emissions (51% of the greenhouse gases). In general, recommendations made were to move towards energy efficiency and renewable energy strategies in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Following the presentation on greenhouse gases, the Task Force discussed the water use per capita, trash per capita and renewable energy information presented. Staff agreed to follow up with requests for more information at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20

Approval

Minutes Prepared by Meghan Bernard

Approved by Linda Fahrenbruch
Chair