



Sustainable Broomfield Community Task Force

***Minutes Meeting #6
October 8, 2009***

Meeting Summary

The sixth meeting was focused on report outs from each sub-group: renewable energy/energy conservation, community education, economic development, transportation, and natural resources. Each group reported on vision statements, goals, and potential policies. UCD gave a presentation on transportation action plans and potential greenhouse gas savings.

Roll Call

Task Force Members Present: Derek Okubo, Mayor Pat Quinn, Linda Fahrenbruch, Jean Wilkie, Kevin Jacobs, Patrick Tennyson, Jennifer Kerr, Jini Bates, Irene Lalich, Felix Flechas, Don Dunshee, Rick Ahrens, Geoff Urand, Roger Kelly, Beverly Pneuman, Liz Law-Evans, Jeffery Kerrane, Jeremy Fancher, David Hastings, Marcia Heiser, Klea Jones, Jeffery McPherson

Absent: Aaron Loertscher, Susan MacGregor, Nicholas Fazzini, Judy Enderle, Bryce Isaacson, Hal Lunka, Lisa Moore, Sam Taylor, Linda Reynolds, Mark Kuhl

Others in attendance: Kevin Standbridge, Kathy Schnoor, Meghan Bernard, Shirley Garcia, Bob Gaiser, Bette Erickson, Adam Schatz, Paul Madigan

Agenda Minutes

6:30 – Announcements

6:35 – Approval of the August 17, 2009 minutes

6:36 – Report out by each sub-group

Renewable Energy Group – Beverly Pneuman

Other members: Linda Fahrenbruch, Hal Lunka, Judy Enderle, Jeremy Fancher

The energy group's vision statement focused on reliable and affordable energies, minimizing environmental impacts and promoting conservation of energy. The group found that Broomfield has already taken many steps towards sustainable energy in the Comprehensive Plan, however the group suggested more specific energy action steps would be beneficial. The Energy Group's preliminary goals included community education, conservation, building energy codes, and renewable energy technologies. Some policy suggestions were to establish a municipally

October 8, 2009

Page 2

owned and operated electricity service and to provide “green packets” to all new residents on energy programs and steps to reduce energy consumption.

In the discussion on the energy group’s progress it was brought up that the vision statement does not address new technologies while the preliminary goals do. One Task Force member expressed concern about the term “LEED certified” because the certification may not necessarily mean that the building saves energy. Another member felt there was focus on new buildings and wanted to make sure there was a focus on existing buildings as well. Finally, it was suggested policies in conservation vs. technology-based solutions be discussed as the group develops their suggestions for council.

6:55 - Education and Public Outreach – Jean Wilkie

Other members: Jeff McPherson, Kevin Jacobs, Klea Jones, Lisa Moore, Mark Kuhl

The education group looked at what the City and County of Broomfield is currently doing for sustainability education. They also wanted to look into what schools are doing to educate the students. The group suggested that Broomfield have a sustainability logo to promote sustainability. The group recognized that education interacts and should be discussed within the four other committees. Some suggestions to promote sustainability were recognition of businesses and citizens for sustainable efforts and a hired staff dedicated to sustainability in Broomfield.

The rest of the task force brought up some concerns about the need to outreach to the homeschooled population as well as the public schools. It was suggested the education group define sustainability so that the public is clear on what the goals are. One member reminded the Task Force of the agreed upon definition of sustainability in the previous sections. One suggestion was to create a contest to involve local artists in creating a logo for sustainability.

7:15 - Economic Development – Patrick Tennyson

Other members: Don Dunshee, Linda Reynolds, Jessica Erickson, Jennifer Kerr, Marcia Heiser

The economic development group defined their area of focus as “360° of Sustainability”. The group wanted to look at growth as an opportunity to expand, to develop their ideas on incubator and diverse business development, and to define quality of life and what a diverse employment base means. The group also wanted to include job opportunities and job creation while developing recommendations. The triple bottom line was also a focus of concern. Their next steps are to define the goals and objectives of the group.

In discussing the economic development group’s progress there were several clarifying questions. The definition of an incubator business was unclear and was given as a start-up business that does not have the capital to purchase space, so space is donated to them until they can get up and running. It was clarified that

October 8, 2009

Page 3

incubator businesses are not frequently successful and it is a risk to start such businesses, however it is necessary because these businesses are the future. There was concern that the economic vision did not address existing businesses. One member said that economic sustainability is less clear, so descriptions of the goals need to be more careful and deliberate. There was consensus that the aspects of social sustainability need to be included in all groups' recommendations. Another member suggested taking fear out of the vision statement and focus on what Broomfield wants to move towards instead.

7:42 - Transportation - Liz Law-Evans

Other members: Sam Taylor, David Hastings, Rick Ahrens, Pat Quinn, Geoff Urland

The transportation group reviewed the Comprehensive Plan's Transportation Vision. After reviewing this vision, the group developed a Sustainable Transportation Vision that included a diversity of transportation options, ability to choose type of transportation, and alternate transportation. The group presented two goals: to make it easier for people to get around Broomfield and that Broomfield will take a leadership role in developing mass transit within and outside Broomfield.

Some policies the group wanted to investigate under the first goal were the construction of trails and bike lanes, trails being used for transportation rather than just recreation, developers focusing on non-motorized transportation improvements and TODs. With the second goal the group wanted to further education of the public on mass transit, more RTD routes with more frequency, to take a leadership role in regional transportation issues and to investigate the possibility of a locally sponsored mass transit system.

In discussing the transportation group's progress some concerns were voiced. One was that bicycles are easy to get to the grocery store, but it is difficult for people to carry their purchases home. Another concern was the vision did not address pedestrians. One member spoke up saying there are not many trails in older neighborhoods and there should be an effort to serve all Broomfielders with trails. Another suggestion was the possibility of car-pooling cooperatives or rent-a-car programs. Someone voiced that there needs to be communication with what the community wants so the group can include those ideas in their recommendations.

8:10 - Natural Resources - Felix Flechas

Other members: Irene Lalich, Jini Bates, Jeffery Kerrane, Bryce Isaacson

The natural resources group reviewed the Comprehensive Plan and many of the topics they had identified were included in the plan. The group looked at the environmental stewardship section and identified relevant goals and goals that need to be added. The group decided there was significant work in the Environmental Stewardship section on wildlife, water and land, but there needed to

October 8, 2009

Page 4

be more focus on air issues. The group also focused on waste reduction and the difference between residential and commercial regulations.

This topic brought up some discussion on recycling and defining natural resources. One member expressed a need for metrics and measuring recycling and waste in order to see reductions. Another member suggested Town and Country Waste as an example of a company that measures recycling and gives rewards as incentives for recycling. It was suggested that when the group starts looking at goals, they should separate them out into categories (waste, water, oil, etc) that are important to Broomfield. One suggestion for the group was to come up with a specific vision statement. Several members were uncomfortable with defining the responsibility of waste in Broomfield and separating residential and commercial recycling. Someone suggested working with the city in partnership with the community to reduce waste. In discussing waste, there was concern with the definition of natural resources and some members suggested renaming the group to something more suitable, like Environmental Impact. It was decided the group would meet to discuss the name of the group and whether or not to change it.

8:40-Transportation Presentation: Meghan Bernard, UCD Graduate Student

Transportation programs were presented and their potential greenhouse gas reduction was shown. These programs were split up into voluntary, behavior change, policy, and market based programs. There were several questions on cost per ton of the different programs. These calculations will be provided in the climate action suggestions with both Buildings and Materials and Waste at a later date.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30

Approval

Minutes Prepared by Meghan Bernard

Approved by Linda Fahrenbruch
Chair