

Louisville Sustainability Advisory Board

AGENDA

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

City Hall - 749 Main Street

Spruce Room- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Chair: Mary Ann Heaney

Secretary: Andy Johnson

6:30 - 6:40 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Current Meeting's Agenda
- IV. Approval of November and December 2011 Minutes
- V. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- VI. Welcome of new member
- VII. Update on City Planning Projects – Troy Russ

Sustainability Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 16, 2011
City Hall - 749 Main Street
6:30 PM – Spruce Room

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mary Ann Heaney called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members (those present in **bold**): Cullen Choi (excused), **Mary Ann Heaney, Annie Hughes, Andy Johnson**, Arno Laesecke, **Mark Persichetti, Ted Sontrop**, Staff Liaison Tom Phare, City Council Representative Dave Clabots, **Facilities Manager Dave Szabados** (sitting in for Tom Phare). Guest: none.
- III. **APPROVAL OF CURRENT MEETING'S AGENDA:** The agenda was approved without changes.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF PAST MONTH'S MEETING MINUTES:** The minutes of the previous meeting on October 19, 2011, were approved unanimously.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None.
- VI. **Update on GMO joint board meetings (Annie)**

Annie provided a document, attached.
- VII. **Update on Liveable Cities presentation to Horticulture Advisory Board (Mary Ann)**

Rescheduled for February 15, 9:00 a.m. Spruce Room, City Hall. due to lack of AV equipment. Mary Ann will provide date. Annie to help with formatting issues.
- VIII. **Update on efficient lighting presentation by Dave Szabados for the public in early December around the Parade of Lights.**

December 1 at 7:00 p.m. at Library, 2nd Floor Boardroom. Will simplify previous presentation making more visually stimulating and focusing on homeowners. List of key concepts was discussed. Homes 10% of energy budget, commercial 30%. Needs to be noticed as an LSAB meeting. Andy will contact the library about posting a notice. David will provide a link to a chart that we can add to the City website.

IX. Organizing/Supporting Community Gardens (Mary Ann)

Andy says he thinks that Troy has shelved it for now. Mary Ann would like to work with him, maybe over this summer to make it happen. Garden Exchange – where people can offer backyards or find backyards for growing gardens. Work with Troy to try to get use of some of the irrigated city owned lands, maybe doing some trial plots this summer. Set up a bee colony. Salt Lake City set one up on their library, education experience for the kids. Get beekeeper to set up a demo. Denver Urban Gardens and other groups may have a framework that she could use. Tom Phare would suggest that we have an organization come to the City and ask. Better to have a group like Growing Gardens. What kind of open space classification would allow this to occur. David said that most city roofs have very limited access. A lot of them are membrane roofs and very white and reflective. May not be the best environment for bees. Annie to talk with local beekeepers.

X. Discuss schedule for assigning Chair and Secretary.

Andy will chair and Mary Ann will take minutes at December meeting. Mary Ann will create a new schedule, leaving Cullen out until April. Arno did not reapply.

XI. Discussion items for next meeting (scheduled for December 20th)

- GMOS
- Community Gardens
- Council formally adopting Boulder County waste plan for City of Louisville – Mark to prepare draft. Dave Szabadoes to forward CAFR newsletters re hazardous waste. No longer a co-pay for household hazardous waste. Getting 4K month for recyclables that City collects. Dave will do a Presidents Day presentation for City employees. If we want to do something for the public, Dave could put something similar together.
- CU Denver Audits – asked Mary Ann to write an email requesting an audit. Going back and forth. CSIS program. Look at the entire city. Louisville is one of the few cities that has not done something like that. Baseline audit. Longmont, Westminster, Golden, Arvada.
- Someone from Planning Commission called Andy and wanted to reopen the discussion about green building, IGCC conservation code. Came up because of Troy Russ' presentation. Troy said he is interested but doesn't have the bandwidth. There's a new proposal for the comp plan that does not have a much language supporting green building. 2009 Energy Conservation code adopted by city has not been reinforced. Would like us to make a recommendation about not skipping building code updates.
- City survey in the spring. Would sustainability question be appropriate? Contact City Manager's office to recommend questions. LSAB should recommend some questions at December meeting. Can give our questions to Tom Phare and he will forward them. Everyone should come with a question. Tom will let us know whether next month will be enough time.

XII. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

2012 Schedule, Deadlines, and Assignments
(next meeting)

PLEASE NOTE DUE DATES TO KERRY!

Circulate Draft Agenda	Agenda and Minutes to Kerry Holle	Meeting	Chair	Secretary
December 8	December 13	December 21	Andy	Mary Ann
January 5	January 10	January 18	Mary Ann	Andy
February 2	February 7	February 15	Andy	Mark
March 8	March 13	March 21	Mark	Ted
April 5	April 10	April 18	Ted	Annie
May 3	May 8	May 16	Annie	Cullen

* denotes a substitute for a position

DRAFT

Wednesday, December 21st, 2011 - City Hall, 749 Main Street, Spruce Room

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Andy Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Members (those present in **bold**): Cullen Choi (excused), **Mary Ann Heaney, Annie Hughes, Andy Johnson, Arno Laesecke, Mark Persichetti, Ted Sontrop, Staff Liaison Dave Szabados** (for Tom Phare), City Council Representative Dave Clabots. Guest: **Susan Loo**, City Council Member.
- III. **APPROVAL OF CURRENT MEETING'S AGENDA:** Approval of the agenda was unanimous.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER'S MEETING MINUTES:** Deferred to the January 2012 meeting.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None.

VI. GMOs on Louisville Open Space Update - Annie

Annie was not present so Mark provided a brief update. Mark said the Commissioners voted 3-0 to allow GMO sugar beets and corn ONLY. Additional GMO crops will be approved on a case by case basis.

Susan Loo said that the Commissioners passed the original cropland policy. Two boards recommended stricter language, also a citizen's policy proposed non GMOs. Annie arrived and read the commissioner's comments on the decision out loud.

Annie said that LSAB is not meeting with OSAB in January. So many boards are involved that the City Manager's office will review the issue and then determine which parties need to meet and when. **Dave volunteered to talk with the City Manager and ask what process that will be followed.**

Annie will forward the Boulder County commissioner's decision to board members. She thinks a background issue, beyond the GMO issue and beyond what the public wants, is complicating matters. (Two surveys were conducted; one by the county and another by an anti GMO group.) Annie thinks the issue will end up as a ballot issue.

Annie mentioned that LSAB has been attempting to get on the OSAB agenda to discuss GMOs. LSAB could have gone directly to council but wanted to work with other boards on this issue. Andy thought that the topic is a political nerve and it would be beneficial to go through the City Manager and act together. He suggested that we take this opportunity to learn how to interact with other boards.

(A side discussion of how advisory boards operate was held with Susan Loo. She was surprised that LSAB did not have a formal plan that was submitted to Council each year for approved of our activities.)

VII. Community Gardens Update – Mary Ann

Mary Ann said she had contacted Denver Urban Gardens about providing assistance. They indicated that Louisville was too far for them to work with us. They directed her to Growing Gardens in Louisville who currently operate the gardens off HWY 42 for the County. They provided cost estimates and guidance documents for establishing community gardens.

Mary Ann suggested that Louisville start with a small trial plot of gardens on City owned irrigated turf areas in 2012 then expand gardens, if successful, the following year.

Growing Gardens thought that approach was doable in 2012 given the time frame available.

Mary Ann proposed starting discussions with HFAB and OSAB since they are the stewards of lands most likely to be used. The board agreed to that approach. Mary Ann will broach the subject during her presentations on Livable City Concepts.

Dates for her Livable Cities presentations are:

HFAB – City Hall, Spruce Room	January 5 th , 7 pm
YAB – Library, Board Room	January 5 th , 7:30 pm?
Revitalization Board – Library, meeting room	January 9 th , 7:30 am
Business Retention Development Committee – Library, meeting room	January 11 th , 8 am
OSAB	???
Downtown Business Association – City Hall, Spruce Room	February 15 th , 9 am

VIII. BCRCB and CAFR Update - Mark

Mark provided an update on activities of the Boulder County Resource Conservation Board (BCRCB) and the Colorado Association for Recycling (CAFR), a private association composed of members who pay dues – either individuals or state, local, and county governments.

BCRCB is developing waste reduction literature – including actions that address plastic bags. **Mark will forward a synopsis of what approaches to single use bags have been taken in the US**, re: bans or fees, and the pros and cons for each approach. Fees appear to be more palatable in most locations. CAFR fees as the best approach. But they will not pursue state wide legislation for that. CAFR will support other entities efforts to ban bags over the next 1-2 years.

BCRCB oversees the county recycling facility. They are exploring the possibility of a drop off site for construction/demolition waste. A consultant recently presented the high/low bids for a covered materials area and a retention pond. Most facilities who currently accept construction debris are not in Boulder County. Contractors often need to go to multiple recycle sites to drop waste off. A one site drop-off is preferred. It is more conducive to recycling this type of waste. \$7M was the low end bid. \$15M was the high end bid.

Operating costs come from tipping fees (generally less than a landfill). Fees would pay for processing/shipping of material. Haulers would bring in materials already segregated. (There are issues with that Mark said.)

Andy described a transfer station in Portland that eliminates the need to go to multiple sites in that area. **He will forward that information to Mark.**

Boulder County wants to collect a much wider range of materials within the county so that people would be more likely to recycle. There is a need to ensure there is a market for all the materials. After identifying construction cost, facility needs, and contractor operation vs. city operated, etc. the County will come to each city to help with cost as plan develops and gets finalized. **Mark will forward documents and additional information to board members.**

Ted asked about the economics. Mark said the facility would be net zero; what the county makes selling the materials is used to operate the facility. Current recycling facility has some profit – turned

back into facility for improvements and grants. Annie asked if deconstruction was encouraged over demolition. Andy said the City of Boulder does and Longmont also but not other cities.

Dave asked what action Mark would like to see Louisville take on this issue. Mark would like to see an ordinance in Louisville - at least for construction materials that Western Disposal collects (currently four different kinds). Mark said the county plan for a facility may not proceed – money is an issue, the site is problematic.

Mark will draft proposed ordinance next year for Louisville. LSAB will review and comment then it would be forwarded to the City.

IX. CU Baseline Study Update – Mary Ann

Mary Ann said that the program's representative agreed to attend the January meeting and make a presentation to the board/answer questions. She suggested we take advantage of that in order for the entire board can to hear the same information at the same time. He had also forwarded three contacts at cities which have participated in the studies. Mary Ann will contact each of them and inquire about the perceived/real benefits of the data collection, the pros/cons of the study, etc. (SEE X1. below)

X. Building Code Updates - Andy

Andy said this was not in the plan for 2012 but discussions should start now. Annie said commercial plans approved pending ADA issues are usually not followed up on and that this should also be included in code changes. Mark asked if Andy got the impression that the model building code would not be adopted in 2012. The code does not get enforced now and follow through in construction is weak. Andy suggested using the International Conservation Code.

XI. Annual City Survey - All

Each member was supposed to bring a question pertaining to LSAB for the City to consider including in the survey. Most of us were slackers and forgot BUT Ted had prepared five questions that he read:

1. Do you use high efficiency light bulbs in your home?
2. Are you aware of energy smart program and do you use it?
3. Have you used free mulch or soils available from the city?
4. Do you agree Louisville should strive to be a leader in sustainable practices?
5. If Louisville funds for sustainable practices rank which is most important:
 - residential zero waste
 - commercial zero waste
 - green energy initiatives-commercial - residential
 - urban agriculture
 - alternative transportation issues

Andy suggested another: Would you support a city adopting a green building code?

The topics were discussed. It was concluded that #1 had already been addressed, #2 was publicized by that program already, and #3 we had just publicized on the home tour. **Ted will format a final question and send it to us for review before sending to Meredith.**

XI. 2011 Activities Review/2012 Goals

Due to time constraints, Andy suggested this topic be deferred until the January meeting. Mary Ann suggested that the group think about some comments that Troy Russ had made to her in a meeting the previous week:

- LSAB was not as involved in major activities/projects as they should be; e.g. the comp plan, the Hwy 42 plans, the transportation plan – LSAB should be contributing to these

- LSAB was perceived as mostly a “building and codes” group but that we were much more diverse than that – our areas of concern/interest affecting nearly every other board
- LSAB should consider becoming a “think tank” that researched and then brought forth ideas to other boards

It was unanimous to take Troy up on his offer to catch us up on major projects in January and also discuss with us our mission/approach. **Mary Ann will confirm that date with him.**

The CU speaker was moved to February’s meeting.

X. ADJOURN – The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

**2012 Schedule, Deadlines, and Assignments
(next meeting)**

PLEASE NOTE DUE DATES FOR DOCUMENTS TO KERRY!

Circulate Draft Agenda to Board	Final Agenda and Previous Minutes due to Kerry Holle	Meeting	Chair	Secretary
January 5	January 10	January 18	Mary Ann	Andy
February 2	February 7	February 15	Andy	Mark
March 8	March 13	March 21	Mark	Ted
April 5	April 10	April 18	Ted	Annie
May 3	May 8	May 16	Annie	Cullen
June 7	June 12	June 20	Cullen	Robin
July 5	July 10	July 18	Robin	Mary Ann
August 2	August 7	August 15	Mary Ann	Andy
September 6	September 11	September 19	Andy	Mark
October 4	October 9	October 17	Mark	Ted
November 8	November 13	November 21	Ted	Annie
December 6	December 11	December 19	Annie	Cullen

*denotes a substitute for that person that month