

Environmental Policy Commission Minutes  
June 4, 2012 EPC Work Session

**EPC Members in Attendance**

✓	Peter Pennington (Chair)	✓	Danielle Fidler	✓	Kurt Moser
X	Jennifer Hovis	✓	Josh Sawislak	X	Phil Voorhees
X	Heather Schaefer	✓	Scott Barstow	✓	Geoffrey Goode
✓	Kristen Nelson	✓	Chinling Chen	✓	Rebecca Jablon

[✓ = In attendance X= Absent]

**City Staff**

Khoa Tran, Bill Skrabak, Bill Eger, Katye North and Al Cox

**Begin 7:35 PM**

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Peter Pennington, Chair, called the meeting to order.
- Skip Maginniss was welcomed; he'll be attending periodically on the Chamber of Commerce's behalf.
- Monica Szczepaniec from Alexandria City Public Schools was welcomed.
- Michael Callahan, a local citizen, was welcomed as well.

**Public Comments**

- None

**Updates on Virginia Building Codes, John Catlett, Director, Department of Code Administration, City of Alexandria**

- John gave an overview of the updates to the state's building codes.
- The state is in midst of the adoption cycle for the 2012 code; by Spring 2014, the 2012 codes should be adopted.
- Virginia developed building codes for the first time in 1973; localities must follow the state-wide codes.
- Training for the new codes has been developed and is underway.
- The City could look into the possibility of a voluntary Eco-City contracting program, a sort of continuing education program on the new energy codes.

**Green Buildings: The Impact of International Green Construction Code (IGCC) and ASHRAE Standard 189.1, Roger Chang, PE, Principal, Westlake, Reed & Leskosky**

- Energy costs, government regulations and increased education are among the triggers to green building.
- IGCC is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> version, released in March, 2012
  - o The IGCC is an overlay code to other international codes that already exist.
  - o The IGCC is designed to provide regimentation but flexibility.
  - o Among the challenges with development are: using code development, prescribing universal strategies, creating an enforceable model, coordination with other initiatives and determining stringency for a minimum standard.
- ASHRAE 189.1 is in its 2<sup>nd</sup> version, released in February, 2012
  - o Potential users are developers, corporations and universities, others with a large portfolio of buildings
  - o The topic areas are similar to LEED categories
- Both systems are for new buildings, new portions of buildings and new systems within existing buildings. Neither are for residential buildings.

- ASHRAE 189.1 can be selected as a compliance path, but can't be customized – it must be used in its entirety. IGCC can be customized.
- Both are equivalent to LEED Silver or Gold certification.

### **EPC Outreach Presentation**

- The EPC members agreed the presentation looks great, and thanked Geoff, Scott and Kristen for their great work in developing it. The EPC discussed how to revise the *What Can You Do* slide. Geoff, Scott and Kristen will work to finish it up.
- On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Geoff is presenting to his homeowner's association.

### **Member Updates and Administration Items**

- The new City Manager will be attending the next meeting.
- The next Green Building Workshop is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> at City Hall from 9 am - 12:30 pm. EPC members are invited to attend.
- The Transportation Commission's meeting is Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Peter will be attending.
- A film meeting with the library will be Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 pm.
- Peter announced the waterfront walk will take place this upcoming weekend.
- On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the EPC will hold a joint meeting with the Bike/Ped Committee.
- The EPC wished a big congratulations to Khoa and the City for reaching a 48% recycling rate.
- On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, is the Carlyle Square Food Festival, the EPC would like a presence there.
- The date and location for the annual picnic and retreat are to be determined. Peter will email out some dates in August and September.
- The FY2013 calendar will be drafted at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
- Scott announced that there is a climate change group meeting on Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Procedures for EPC Elections for FY2013**

- Rebecca will send out an email requesting nominations, and asked the EPC to please consider taking on roles such as chair, vice chair, Earth Day chair and secretary.
- Anyone who's interested in nominating themselves or others should email Rebecca.
- Elections will take place at the next meeting.

**Adjourn 9:35 PM**