

Climate Protection and Energy Efficiency Committee

Chairman Politsch called the meeting of the Climate Protection and Energy Efficiency Committee to order at 2:00 P.M., on April 6, 2010, at Alton City Hall, 101 E. Third Street, Alton, Illinois.

Members Present: Darrell McGibany, Alderman Mick McCahill, Alderman David Boulds, and Chairman Wayne Politsch

Members Absent: Jeremy Mills, Zeke Jabusch, and Joel Schwaab

Staff and Guests: John Wagner, John May, Dale Kelley, Christine Favilla, Linda Weller, Dave Gocken, Matt Asselmeier, and Mayor Tom Hoechst

After introductions, Matt Asselmeier introduced John Wagner, Community Policy Director at FOCUS St. Louis.

John Wagner explained the mission and activities of FOCUS St. Louis and went through the Environmental Sustainability Roadmap. Matt Asselmeier has a copy of John Wagner's presentation if members of the Committee or the public would like to view it.

Alderman David Boulds asked how a building becomes LEED certified. John Wagner talked about the role of the Green Building Council. John May suggested contacting Emily Andrews at the Green Building Council with questions or contact local architectural firms.

Mayor Tom Hoechst asked if LEED certification and requirement contributed to a decline of new building. The answer was no. Christine Favilla stated that the St. Louis Metro Section of the American Planning Association could be a source of information regarding sustainable developments.

John May discussed the City of St. Charles' points program, an incentive for going green.

Dale Kelley asked a question regarding finding a funding source. John May discussed the permit fee reduction incentive of St. Charles.

Dave Gocken discussed the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center and, if you really want to go green, a way exists for going green.

John Wagner stated that the Chesterfield HVAC system will be more efficient and have a payback in 5-6 years. Also, 15 cities in St. Louis County received a grant from the Missouri Department of Economic Development to upgrade lighting.

John May reported that payback for some projects could occur quickly and, through inventive financing, could be budget neutral.

Discussion occurred regarding energy efficiency, income, and health. Discussion also occurred regarding the Wal-Mart in Manchester and the Simmons Building in Alton.

Chairman Politsch asked where do you begin to grow sustainability outreach. John May talked about hiring a Sustainability Coordinator or create a green team with representatives from all of the departments.

Discussion occurred regarding the lighting inventory of 15 municipalities in Missouri. The \$200,000 retrofit saved \$27,000 per year.

Christine Favilla discussed doing an energy audit with ICLEI software and pooling the resources of neighboring communities.

John May discussed the difference between a greenhouse gas inventory and an energy audit.

Dale Kelley talked about upfront costs and lifecycle costs.

John May mentioned that some banks offer loans to governments for energy projects. Dardenne Prairie city hall project was cited as an example.

Attendees thanked John Wagner for his presentation

With no additional business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:53 P.M.

The next meeting is May 4th. Committee members are reminded to have their portion of the research for the Climate Action Plan ready for presentation at the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, MPA