

**Sustainability Council  
March 14, 2014**

A meeting of the Sustainability Council was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, March 14, 2014 at Brookings City & County Government Center with the following members present: Ben Kleinjan, Bob McGrath, Ryan Carda, Trisha Jackson, Betty Beer and Holly Tilton Byrne. Absent: Alvaro Garcia, Norma Nusz Chandler, Paul Peterson and Jane Hegland. Others present included: Shari Thornes and Laurie Carruthers.

Vice-chair Kleinjan called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. A motion was made by McGrath, seconded by Jackson to approve the agenda. All present voted yes; motion carried. A motion was made by McGrath, seconded by Carda, to approve March 7, 2014 minutes. All present voted yes; motion carried.

**Meeting Schedule.** Next meeting will be planned at a later date.

**Indicator Project Analysis.**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Suggestions/revisions</b>
Volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beer completing City volunteer information and adding chart with city and national rates</li> </ul>
Voter Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change the indicator title to be "Registered Voter Participation"</li> <li>• Add a line in the Figure 1 chart including city elections</li> <li>• Identify mid-term elections with an "*"</li> </ul>
Education Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This indicator was not part of Dubuque's project and the data is inconsistent</li> <li>• Remove this indicator from the project</li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading Proficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change Figure 1 to be a vertical line graph and omit comparable cities that are missing data</li> </ul>
Arts & Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising</li> </ul>
True Housing Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising</li> </ul>
Percent of Employers who pay wages at or below poverty level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make future indicator</li> </ul>
Public Transportation Ridership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising</li> </ul>
Safe Travel Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beer revision</li> <li>• In Figure 2, round the numbers</li> </ul>
Household Radon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add website with resources for radon testing</li> </ul>
Asthma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson verifying data – reduction more than half from 2012 to 2013. Acute care implemented in 2013?</li> </ul>
Carbon Dioxide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising as class project</li> </ul>

Emissions	
Clean Fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the indicator description add “local” between meeting and efficiency</li> <li>• Beer revising</li> </ul>
Bacterial Concentration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add table</li> </ul>
Impaired Stream Segments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change order and move this indicator before Bacterial Concentration</li> </ul>
Chloride Concentration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising</li> </ul>
Drinking Water Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beer revising</li> <li>• In the indicator description delete “from local ground or surface water sources”</li> <li>• Under <i>How are we doing?</i> – change “south” to “north”</li> <li>• The chart is missing data</li> </ul>
Urban Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising</li> <li>• Round the numbers in the figure</li> </ul>
Municipal Chemical Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jackson revising</li> </ul>
Bird Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beer verifying 2012 data and revising</li> </ul>
Prairie and Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check what city/county has for wetlands</li> <li>• Add table?</li> </ul>

Future indicators:

- In Voter Participation – add eligible voters to the data
- Educational opportunity/employment opportunity
- Percentage of jobs that pay at or below poverty level
- Lung cancer compared to radon levels in Brookings

Overall revisions:

- Justify the entire document
- If the data is not obtainable, move that indicator to the next version

**Plain Green Speaker Series with Cori Burbach – Schedule of events.** Cori Burbach is arriving on March 19 and will be here all day on the 20<sup>th</sup>. The Sustainability Council has a special meeting to meet with her at 10:00 am on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Carruthers asked for question submissions ahead of the meeting and she will create a guide for the members. The reception begins at 6:30 pm and the lecture begins at 7:00 pm.

**Earth Day Update.** Tilton Byrne is the chair for the Earth Day subcommittee. She advised there are several contacts to make for exhibitors and presentations. She asked for volunteers to assist with the work for the Earth Day events. No one volunteered.

**Public Education Campaign Poster Approval.** The members were happy with the designs for the following posters:

- **Single Stream Recycling** – Mayor Reed jumping out of a recycling container
- **General Recycling** – Habitat ReStore – Penny Hauffe
- **Plastic** – HyVee Manager Curt Osmanski carrying groceries in reusable bags
- **Smart Energy** – Steve Meyer – Energy use and percentages where Brookings power originates
- **Nature** – Park & Recreation Director Pete Colson at the Nature Park site showing the reuse of the old landfill
- **Local Foods** – Jack the mascot eating a carrot at the Farmer’s Market
- **Social** – Mayor’s Ride group photo

Posters should be printed on recycled paper. Advertising includes posters around town, poster insert in Shopper or Register, Facebook ads, website, public access channel.

### **Announcements/Correspondence/Communications/Calendar**

- March 20, 2014 – Plain Green Speaker Series with Cori Burbach at the Brookings City & County Government Center
  - 10:00 am – Individual meeting with Cori Burbach and the Sustainability Council
  - 6:30 pm – Reception in Community Room
  - 7:00 pm – Lecture in Chambers
- September 12, 2014 – Plain Green Conference
- **Membership:** Members’ terms were staggered with one, two and three terms when the Council was created on September 15, 2011. Terms for Hegland and McGrath expire on 12/31/14. All are eligible for a full three year term.
- March 29 from 8:30 pm – 9:30 pm – Earth Hour: turning off the lights/electricity during this hour to take action on climate change and show concern for the environment.
- Future topics: Bike racks for BATA buses, bike patrol, East Brookings industry traffic concerns, Plain Green 2015 Indicator Project, legislative issues.

**Draft April Agenda:** Indicator Project analysis and Earth Day Update.

**Adjourn.** Carda needed to leave at 9:43 a.m., and there was no longer a quorum. Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Submitted by Laurie Carruthers