

Sustainability Council
June 5, 2014

A meeting of the Sustainability Council was held at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, May 9, 2014 at Brookings City & County Government Center with the following members present: Norma Nusz Chandler, Ben Kleinjan, Bob McGrath, Jane Hegland, Trisha Jackson, Paul Peterson, Betty Beer, Mike Lockrem and Holly Tilton Byrne. Absent: Ryan Carda and Alvaro Garcia. Others present included: Shelly Brandenburger from the SDSU Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Committee, Shari Thornes and Laurie Carruthers.

Chair Nusz Chandler called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. A motion was made by Kleinjan, seconded by Jackson to approve the agenda. All present voted yes; motion carried. A motion was made by McGrath, seconded by Beer, to approve May 9, 2014 minutes. All present voted yes; motion carried.

Schedule next meeting. July 11, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Indicator Project Presentation Plan for July 15 Council Study Session.

The Sustainability Council discussed the presentation for the July 15 Council Study Session. In the message to the Council the following needs to be done: identify process, baseline scan of Brookings' sustainability, certain data is always changing, some indicators did not have a measurement system in place, explain sustainability and its interlinking with many factors. If Brookings increases its sustainability, there could be budget savings. Highlight some strengths including: Interest Rate on Municipal Bonds, Renewable Energy Use and Historic Preservation. Highlight some weaknesses: Poverty, Radon, Mixed Land Use. If you wanted to start with the low hanging fruit, concentrate on Mixed Land Use. Strengthening this indicator would inadvertently affect other sustainability indicators. Many hours of work were undertaken to complete this project. All of this was done by a volunteer committee. This work could lay the groundwork for a sustainability coordinator.

The Sustainability Council agreed to have the score card color coded and add the indicator's page number to the score card. Nusz Chandler and Kleinjan will present the indicator project to the City Council with a 30 minute presentation and 30 minutes for question/answer. Other members of the Sustainability Council are asked to attend the meeting. Nusz Chandler will prepare an executive summary. Kleinjan will prepare a PowerPoint presentation and submit it to the City Clerk's office before July 8, 2014. Jackson will prepare and submit a letter to the Brookings Register Editor prior to the City Council meeting. Copies of the complete indicator project will be made available at the Brookings Public Library, SDSU Briggs Library and the City Administration at the Brookings City & County Government Center.

2014 Community Common Read Project with the Human Rights Committee. Tilton Byrne reported from the Community Common Read subcommittee meeting. Ideas include a panel discussion after school starts; tours of local farms, the Farmer's Market and school gardens; and developing a new community garden closer to the bulk of the residents.

Public Education Campaign Poster Reveal/Advertising Plan. Lockrem presented a marketing/promotional plan for the Public Education Campaign including posters, Brookings Municipal Utilities mailing stuffers, Brookings Theatre ads, Brookings Register ads, Facebook and Reach Local. Thornes and Lockrem will work together to finalize the plan.

Growing Sustainable Communities Dubuque Conference. Hegland, Beer and Jackson are all interested in attending the Dubuque Conference. Carruthers reminded everyone that mileage is half of the cost of this conference. If we have more than one member attending, they will need to carpool.

Announcements/Correspondence/Communications/Calendar

- June 21 & 22, 2014 – Bike & Kite Festival at Fishback Soccer Complex
- July 15, 2014 – Brookings Benchmarks Indicator Project Presentation to the City Council
- August 13, 2014 – Bike Friendly Community Visit
- September 12, 2014 – Plain Green Conference
- October 7 & 8, 2014 – Growing Sustainable Communities Dubuque Conference – Hegland, Beer & Jackson
- October 27, 2014 – Presentation by Will Allen author of “The Good Food Revolution”
- November 2-3, 2014 – South Dakota Local Foods Conference, Fort Pierre
- **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.
- Future topics: Bike racks for BATA buses, bike patrol, East Brookings industry traffic concerns, Plain Green 2015 Indicator Project, legislative issues.

Draft July Agenda: Finalize Indicator Project presentation, @@@.

Adjourn. A motion was made by Hegland, seconded by Jackson, to adjourn. All present voted yes; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Submitted by Laurie Carruthers