

Sustainability Council February 11, 2015

A meeting of the Sustainability Council was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 3:00 pm at Brookings City & County Government Center with the following members present: Trisha Jackson, Norma Nusz Chandler, Bob McGrath, Ben Kleinjan, Holly Tilton Byrne, Paul Peterson, Jane Hegland and Mike Lockrem. Absent: Stephanie Aure, Betty Beer and Alvaro Garcia. Others present included: Shari Thornes and Laurie Carruthers.

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. A motion was made by Nusz Chandler, seconded by Tilton Byrne to approve the agenda. All present voted yes; motion carried. A motion was made by McGrath, seconded by Peterson, to approve the amended January 28, 2015 minutes. All present voted yes; motion carried.

Schedule next meeting. March 25, 2015 at 3:00 pm.

Updates/Final Reports:

Finalize Brookings Benchmarks Indicator Project Action Plan for 2015.

Brookings Benchmarks 2015 Action Plan

Topic	Action	Timing	Identified by	Partners	Key Metrics
General – Educate the public about the Brookings Benchmarks Project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speak to various groups including the City Department heads and Brookings Municipal Utilities staff 2. Distribute copies of the project at the libraries 3. Upload the project to the City of Brookings website 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. Completed 3. Completed 	Sustainability Council		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public awareness of sustainability and the Brookings Benchmarks project
General – Engrain the sustainability philosophy into the daily activities of the City of Brookings department heads and staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage city staff to incorporate sustainability into documents generated by the city, such as long range planning, zoning, capital improvement plans, street/bike designs, storm sewers/drainage plans and bid documents 2. Partner with city departments to incorporate the sustainability into the work environment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. Ongoing 	Sustainability Council and Department Heads		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents will reflect the three principles of sustainability: environmental, social and economic • Reduced need to add new employees and continued productivity by the city workforce using the best technology available and the best management practices to conserve resources and create a safe and friendly work environment
General – Develop a strategy to keep the Brookings Benchmarks updated	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider dividing the Brookings Benchmarks into portions and develop a plan on how to move forward in editing of this document. 2. Partner with various city departments to consider revising certain indicators to more specific parameters, which can be measured 	2015			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If dividing the project becomes part of the strategy to keep the data current, a smaller project will emerge each year • If more specific parameters can be identified, then data will be acquired (minimum of 1 year) and this information will appear in future projects
General - Support state-wide legislation regarding sustaining sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop resolutions of support for appropriate changes which encourage sustainability to be approved by the Sustainability Council and/or City Council. This may include, but is not limited to, net-metering policy suggestions. 	1. Ongoing	Sustainability Council & City Council	City department heads or other entities impacted by the proposed legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance sustainability activities through legislation such as net-metering, when possible

Brookings Benchmarks 2015 Action Plan

Topic	Action	Timing	Identified by	Partners	Key Metrics
Poverty	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seeking 2015 intern from Oberlin College grant 2. Submit 2016 budget proposal for SDSU intern 3. Clarify existing indicators to gather more data 4. Identify poverty reduction strategies employed by other cities 5. Evaluate city policies/procedures that contribute or create obstacles 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2015 2. 2015 3. Ongoing 4. Ongoing 5. Ongoing 	Sustainability Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Council • County • SDSU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documented summary of existing indicators with recommendations for future indicators • Collect data specific for Brookings for all economic indicators in next benchmark project vs. eastern South Dakota • Poverty level in Brookings decreases. This is what is desired but there is not an action to impact change
Trash/Refuse Generation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research and provide information to the public, business, and industry on how to reduce waste 2. Research curbside composting of food waste programs in other communities. Based on the findings, the Sustainability Council will draft a feasibility report for the City Council with a food composting program in Brookings and any needed policy changes. 3. Research city imposed fee for not recycling 4. Recommend placement of recycling receptacles in public areas in Brookings, such as downtown and in public parks. 5. Recommend placement of recycling receptacles in all public spaces (interior and exterior) by 2016 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. 2015 3. 2015 4. 2015 5. 2015 	Solid Waste, Sustainability Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBI Design Committee • Parks & Recreation • Solid Waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in tonnage at the landfill considering growth • Use of public recycling receptacles
Construction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage adopting state energy efficiency regulations on new construction, renovations and projects 2. Recommend energy efficient building codes and/or sustainable building practices 3. Investigate addition of indicators for recycled building materials such as recycled asphalt/shingles, recycled concrete, perpetual pavement, porous pavement 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. Ongoing 3. Ongoing 	City Engineer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Council • City Engineer • BMU • City Landfill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy saving programs initiated – BMU is doing this with local business to reduce lighting costs • Reduce per capita resource use

2/18/15 Page 2

Brookings Benchmarks 2015 Action Plan

Topic	Action	Timing	Identified by	Partners	Key Metrics
Housing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seeking 2015 intern from Oberlin College grant 2. Submit 2016 budget proposal for SDSU intern 3. Clarify existing indicators to gather more data 4. Investigate the availability of affordable housing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2015 2. 2015 3. Ongoing 4. Ongoing 	Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Council • City Engineer • Housing in city and/or county 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing affordability increases and boosts the economy
Vehicle Mobility & Walkable Neighborhoods	<p>Assist the city's efforts and provide guidance as needed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtain Brookings' bikeability score 2. Develop a bicycle master plan with policy directives 3. Designate a bicycle coordinator 4. Create a bicycle advisory committee 5. Count bicyclists 6. Expand on-street bikeway network 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ongoing 2. 2015 3. 2015 4. 2015 5. 2015 6. Ongoing 	Sustainability Council, City Manager, Parks & Recreation, Community Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycle Advisory Ad Hoc Committee • SDSU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining a Bicycle Friendly Community Status • Quality of life for our citizens through safe travel routes by foot and bicycle
Clean Fleet	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emphasize fuel efficiency in all bidding or purchasing of City vehicles 2. Explore the possibility of using alternate energy powered vehicles for certain uses such as electric or hybrid cars for in-town use. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Before spring 2015 2. 2015 	City Department Heads		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel efficiency in bid documents will carry the same weight or more as traditional specification items such as engine, transmission warranty
Reforestation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate City and SDSU tree planting programs to develop and implement a written tree-planting plan for campus and community, with emphasis on diversification of tree varieties, native tree usage, and disease/drought/flood resistance varieties. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2015 	Sustainability Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Department • SDSU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on trees and Recommendations on varieties

2/18/15 Page 3

Earth Day 2015. Members agreed to participate in a booth at the Habitat event on April 18th. A motion was made by McGrath, seconded by Nusz Chandler, at the discretion of the staff, to approve up to \$500 in advertising for the Earth Day 2015 event. All present voted yes; motion carried. Lockrem will check about donating SDSU ice cream for distributing at the booth. A suggestion was made to produce bookmarks promoting the Brookings Benchmarks Project, "If

you haven't seen the Brookings Benchmarks Project, check it out at www.sustainbrookings.org."

Legislative Updates. Tilton Byrne drafted a letter of support for Methodology Bill (HB 1232). If approved, it will be sent to all the local representatives and the House & Energy Committee members. A motion was made by McGrath, seconded by Tilton Byrne, for Kleinjan and Tilton Byrne to amend the letter and submit it to the members of the House & Energy Committee as well as the local representatives on behalf of the Sustainability Council to show their support of HB 1232. All present voted yes; motion carried.

Adjourn. A motion was made by Peterson, seconded by Nusz Chandler, to adjourn. All present voted yes; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Submitted by Laurie Carruthers.