

**Baltimore Commission on Sustainability
July 27, 2010 Meeting Report**

Date: Tuesday, July 27, 2010 from 4-6 pm

Location: Department of Planning Boardroom, 417 E. Fayette St. 8th Floor

Subject: Commission on Sustainability July 2010 General Meeting

In Attendance: (*Commissioners*) - Davis Bookhart, Cheryl Casciani, John Ciekot, Peter Doo, Ray Ehrlich, Brian Knight, Keith Losoya, Patrick McMahon, Ruth Ann Norton, John Quinn, Jake Ruppert, Ali Smith, Tom Stosur, Alyson Taylor, Mary Washington, Councilwoman Sharon Green Middleton (*Staff*) - Beth Strommen, Brett Buikema

Presenters: Ruth Ann Norton, Mike Cook, Ted Atwood, Davis Bookhart

Topics addressed:

- Minutes from June 2010 meeting are approved without amendment
 - Motion made by Ruth Ann Norton, second by Keith Losoya
- Chair Report
 - Introduction of Councilwoman Sharon Green Middleton and Ted Atwood, Department of General Services
 - Update on Katie Lima's progress with the Community Energy Savers Grant Program
- Staff Report
 - A Landscape Architect has been hired to create the Baltimore City Landscape Manual, job begins in September
 - The Office of Sustainability - Sustainability Coordinator position will be advertised starting in August
 - The Transform Baltimore Sub-committee met and will have recommendations which will be presented at the August CoS meeting
 - AECOM has been selected as the Climate Action Plan consultant
 - Lynn Heller has agreed to chair the Climate Action Plan Task Force
 - Community Energy Saver Grants are being reviewed and those that do not qualify are receiving help with located other sources of funding. The second round application deadline has been extended into October
 - The Plastic Bag Work Group is working with the Mayors Office of Information Technology to design and interactive website for this program and they should meet the deadline
 - The Baltimore Ecosystem Study has been approved for a six year extension to conduct long term ecological research. The proposal was tied to the Baltimore Sustainability Plan and Baltimore was the first urban area to be included in this type of study
 - Baltimore is one of twelve cities selected to attend a Climate Leadership Conference in Boston this fall. Beth Strommen will be attending
 - TreeBaltimore and Baltimore City Public Schools have formed a partnership to set tree canopy goals for city school property. There will be two large tree plantings per year, the first will be in October 2010.
 - The Maryland State Department of Education has published a proposed environmental literacy graduation requirement for all Maryland students. Public comment is open until August 16, 2010. Commissioners were urged to submit letters of support

- Presentations
 - New EPA Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rules – Ruth Ann Norton, Executive Director – National Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning
<http://cleanergreenerbaltimore.org/uploads/files/EPA%20Renovation,%20Repair%20and%20Painting%20Rule.pdf>
 - Department of General Services - Energy Division Initiatives – Mike Cook, Division Chief
<http://cleanergreenerbaltimore.org/uploads/files/Energy%20Division%20-%20Sustainability%20Commission%2007-27-10.pdf>
 - DGS just received a grant to install nine charging stations in public parking garages to help with the promotion of electric vehicles
 - Work is being done to create a car share program for city agencies to reduce the city fleet
 - Code Red Days in Baltimore City – Davis Bookhart
 - Proposal to close all non-essential city buildings during code red days
 - Would be a part of meeting Pollution Prevention Goal #2: Improve Baltimore's air quality and eliminate Code Red days
 - Energy Office - Determine the energy impacts of going into unoccupied mode during Code Red days, estimate number of commuters off the road, GHG, energy, savings
 - Mayor's Office - Determine if there are legal or other issues with approach
 - CoS - Develop proposed legislative language (if necessary)
 - Davis Bookhart will organize a meeting to further discuss proposal with Health Dept., Energy Office, Office of Sustainability, and John Quinn
- Legislation
 - City Council Bill 10-0488 – Planned Unit Development – 25th Street Station
 - Update on community and transportation meetings was given by Tom Stosur
 - Project goes before Planning Commission on Thursday August 5, 2010 at 6:00 PM
 - Consensus was met to support the proposed memo in support of the legislation with the request that staff is very careful about which goals we list as being met by this project, making sure that they are actually being furthered by the development.

Upcoming Events:

- Next Commission on Sustainability Meeting: Tuesday, August 24, 2010, 4 PM at 417 East Fayette Street, 8th Floor