Baltimore Commission on Sustainability May 24, 2011 Meeting Report

Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2011 from 5-7 pm **Location**: Humanim, 1701 North Gay Street, Baltimore, MD 21213

Subject: Commission on Sustainability May 2011 General Meeting

In Attendance: (*Commissioners*) – Ted Atwood, Davis Bookhart, Cheryl Casciani, John Ciekot, Peter Doo, Lynn Heller, Keith Losoya, Patrick McMahon, Sharon Middleton, John Quinn, Jake Ruppert, Scot Spencer, Ali Smith, Tom Stosur, Alyson Taylor, Mary Washington, Ed Whalen (*Staff*) - Beth Strommen, Alice Kennedy, Abby Cocke, Holly Freishtat, Amy Guilder-Busatti, Ivor Quashie, Susan Carroll, Gary Letteron

Presenters: Laurie Schwartz (Waterfront Partnership), Halle Van der Gaag (Blue Water Baltimore) and Holly Freishtat (Baltimore City Office of Sustainability)

Topics addressed:

- Minutes approved April 2011 meeting.
- Chair Report
 - Welcome
 - Commission Introductions
 - Note June & July Meeting Agendas
 - Review Purpose of Meeting and Agenda
- Staff Report
 - Overview of Commission Cheryl
 - Overview of Office Beth
 - Overview of Sustainability Plan Alice
 - Overview of 2010 Annual Report Cheryl
- Highlight of Feature Chapter Stories from Annual Report
 - Cleanliness Mary Washington
 - Pollution Prevention Councilwoman Sharon Middleton
 - Resource Conservation Davis Bookhart
 - Greening Scot Spencer
 - Transportation Patrick McMahon
 - Education and Awareness Ali Smith
 - Barclay Deconstruction Beth Strommen
- Call to Action Alice Kennedy
 - Youtube video: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPShQ_hVJqY</u>
 - Join Sustainability Office Mailing List
 - Follow on Facebook and Twitter
 - Sign Sustainability Pledge
 - Become a Sustainability Ambassador for your neighborhood
- Presentations
 - Healthy Harbor Initiative Laurie Schwartz, Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore and Halle van der Gaag, Blue Water Baltimore

- Waterfront Partnership launched the "Healthy Harbor Initiative" in April of 2010
- Waterfront Partnership taking the lead on creating a swimmable fishable harbor and working closely with City government and Blue Water Baltimore
- Started by looking at what practices they could change
- Broader implementation plan on what all partners can do to create a swimmable fishable harbor
- Blue Water Baltimore educates public on upstream activities and their impact on the Harbor. Blue Water Baltimore was created in September of 2010. Comprised of five watershed organizations merging into one.
- BWB programs cover stream clean-ups, tree plantings, weeding and invasive plant removal, storm drain labeling, water quality monitoring and much more.
- Food Access Holly Freishtat, Baltimore Office of Sustainability
 - First Food Policy Director in the country
 - 10 recommendations from Food Policy Task Force
 - Food Deserts in Baltimore where are they? How do we improve food access to city residents.
 - Farmers Market Assessment where are we and how to we promote farmers markets.
 - EBT Pilot Project
 - Get Fresh Baltimore Campaign promoting fresh fruits and vegetables. Youth created pictures to be used in ad campaign. Will be on MTA buses.
 - Urban Agriculture RFQ increasing number of urban farms to help with food access

Upcoming Events:

• Next Commission on Sustainability Meeting: Tuesday, June 28, 2011, 4 PM at 417 East Fayette Street, 8th Floor