

City of Spokane  
Mayor's Sustainability Task Force  
Meeting Minutes, May 20, 2008

**Location:** City Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, conference room 4A

**Time:** 8:00 a.m. – noon

**Invitees:** Task Force members, Mayor Verner, City Administrator, Sustainability Coordinator, Environmental Programs Manager, City Council members, and interested public

**In attendance:** Roger Woodworth, Jim Wavada, Mike Petersen, Mary Carr, Sara Orrange, Bob Scarfo, Larry Luton, Juliet Sinisterra, Terry Lawhead

**Absent:** Denny Dellwo, Susan Meyer, Katherine Rowden, Jerry Winkler

**Staff:** Susanne Croft, Deborah Bisenius, Lloyd Brewer (2<sup>nd</sup> half)

**Observing:** Tim Pelton (Wastewater Treatment), Russ Menke (Spokane Regional Solid Waste), Harry Bright, Terry Jones, Erin Vincent (Greater Spokane Incorporated), Richard Schoen

**Decisions:**

**Q:** Should Task Force weigh in on current sustainability initiatives and even periodically recommend that the City develop this or that policy as they see a need?

**A:** No, Task Force felt the City shouldn't wait for them, should move forward in ways that make sense now for future sustainability. Evaluating every current opportunity or need may distract Task Force from the job at hand. Staff will keep Task Force advised of policies and practices so can factor those in to final strategic plan.

**Discussion of:**

1. **Revised Work Group Instructions, Scope of Project:** approved
2. **July summit:** Ideas include guest speaker(s), opportunity for work groups to compare findings thus far with each other and Task Force.
3. **Work Groups' first meetings:** Task Force liaisons appointed (see meeting schedule). Need to be sure final report identifies staff/community member composition. Work Group co-leads will meet regularly to compare notes. Green Team will do this at the staff level.
4. **Sustainability Assessment & Decision Tool:** All Work Groups will use this tool to ensure some level of consistency between their discovery processes and the format of their recommendations. It will also provide a defensible record of the process they used to assess risks and select actions to recommend. Format is prescriptive but not exclusive at all in terms of ideas that can be inserted.
  - **Vision:** Each group will start by painting a vision of the ideal sustainable Spokane in 30 years, and then backcast from there to identify impacts and vulnerabilities related to peak oil and climate change that could keep us from getting there, and actions we could take to achieve that end state.
  - **Scoring:** Separate Sustainability Considerations into Primary Considerations and Triple Bottom Line Considerations, ranked 1-5, with sub-totals for each. Identify a range (1-5) for estimated front-end cost of each Action (to weigh against Impact Score in scattergram). Just check the Feasibility Considerations that could be barriers, and enter a Comment suggesting how to remove that barrier.
  - **Missing ideas, players:** Task Force members should work with Work Group co-leads to ensure a broad range of issues and options are discussed, broad viewpoint is expressed and examined. Staff will provide Work Groups with questions, criteria and impact assessments from Portland and Seattle, as well as other resources which can inform their discussions.