

City of Spokane  
Mayor's Sustainability Task Force  
Meeting Minutes, June 4, 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

**Coffee:** Courtesy of Roger Woodworth ☺

**In attendance:** Roger Woodworth, Larry Luton, Dennis Dellwo, Mike Petersen, Juliet Sinisterra, Terry Lawhead, Katherine Rowden, Mary Carr, Bob Scarfo (left at break), Sara Orrange (10:00), Susan Meyer (10:30)

**Absent:** Jim Wavada, Jerry Winkler

**Observers:** Harry Bright, Andrew Rolwes (DSP)

**Staff:** Susanne Croft, Deborah Bisenius

- 1) **Minutes:** reviewed, approved minutes from 5-20-08 meeting
- 2) **Work Group Check-in:** Task Force members agreed that any of its members present at any Work Group meeting can and should freely engage with the participants to help assure their efforts yield input that is robust, diverse and in a form we can use.
  - a) **Procurement:** Composed mostly to City staff members. They've set up a Google Group to share communications and document iterations. Focused on revising the City's Procurement Policy rather than specifically using the Assessment Tool at this point.
  - b) **Water:** Using the Assessment Tool, brainstorming challenges. High representation of city employees really helps.
  - c) **Built-Unbuilt Environment:** Their facilitated nominal group process generated a swarm of ideas within a fairly short period of time.
  - d) **Transportation & Mobility:** They've also set up a Google Group to share communications and document iterations. Focus is still somewhat narrow. Task Force might introduce policies for them to consider, including those outlined in the 2005 IEA report, "Saving Oil in a Hurry."
- 3) **July gathering:**
  - a) **purpose:** opportunity for Task Force to meet separately with speakers + detailed reporting between work groups + raise community awareness via the speakers
  - b) **name:** not "summit", should have positive flavor, approachable terminology
    - i) Seeking Sustainable Solutions?
    - ii) Transition Spokane?
    - iii) (Mayor's) Forum on the Future?
    - iv) (Mayor's) Sustainability Symposium?
    - v) (Mayor's) Sustainability Seminar(s)?
  - c) **timing:** late July, scheduled so the general public can hear **keynote speakers**
  - d) **location:** downtown library? The Fox?
  - e) **potential speakers:**
    - i) Peak Oil: John Kaufmann, staff to Portland's Peak Oil Task Force
    - ii) ~~climate mitigation (reducing GHG emissions): some from ICLEI?~~

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- iii) climate adaptation:
    - (1) re the science of climate change & its impact specifically on E. WA:
      - (a) Dr. Robert Quinn, EWU
      - (b) **Dr. Phil Mote**, U. of WA's Climate Impacts Group
    - (2) local government's role in addressing climate change:
      - (a) **Ron Sims**, King Co. Executive: mitigation (?) & adaptation
  - f) **Format:** keynote speakers + panel discussion + opportunity for audience participation
  - g) **Audience:**
    - i) #1 = Work Groups and Task Force
    - ii) also: elected officials, community leaders, businesses, general public, City employees, use Outreach Partners' networks to extend invitations
  - h) **Media coverage:** Task Force will work with Mayor Verner's office to encourage media coverage of these issues, ramping up to their announcements and reviews of July event
  - i) **End product:**
    - i) Work groups report out findings so far to each other/Task Force/interested members of the public, review and digest, and pass back for any adjustments.
    - ii) Also, speaker(s) help us learn about expected impacts of climate change so work groups are prepared to undertake the second stage of discovery.
- 4) **Other local government initiatives:** Susanne Croft reviewed data-related components of climate action plans from Boulder CO, Denver CO, and Burlington VT.
- 5) **Greenhouse gas emissions:** Deborah Bisenius reviewed highlights of the recent report from the Brookings Institute
- 6) **Architecture 2030:** viewed video at <http://architecture2030.org/faceit/index.php>
- 7) **Audience Q & A:** Harry Bright suggested we host a public engagement activity focused around July 4: ask church groups and neighborhoods to use Force Field Analysis exercise to generate ideas for how to address the issues of energy security and climate change. Task Force generally agreed that such a process and the resulting input would be a welcome addition to its work and encouraged Mr. Bright to pursue the idea with others. However, the Task Force felt that timing and resource constraints preclude it from expanding efforts to do so at this time.