

Baltimore Sustainability Commission Meeting Report

Date: March 24, 2009

Location: Department of Planning, 417 E. Fayette Street, 8th floor

Time: 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Commissioners in Attendance: Keith Losoya, Alyson Taylor, Peter Doo, Davis Bookhart, Lynn Heller, John Ruppert, John Quinn, Madeleine Shea, David Dunphy, Patrick McMahon, Ray Ehrlich, Ali Smith, Mary Washington, Tom Stosur, Cheryl Casciani

Staff in Attendance: Beth Strommen, Sarah Zaleski, Brett Buikema

Meeting Discussion:

Presentation of the Legislative Evaluation Process from Davis Bookhart

- Commissioners requested all relevant documents be posted on Collective site to allow for review and discussion
- Five people minimum are required to request a special meeting on any piece of legislation with an allowance to be made if a Commissioner feels that the Commission needs additional information in order to make an informed decision
- Commissioners would like the City Council hearing date posted if known
- Recommendations should have a financial sustainability standpoint as well

One plus One Legislation Discussion

- Overview of the legislation given by Beth Strommen
- Reasons for supporting need to be clarified, i.e. budget, job salvation, etc
- Create a memo that includes the content of the Sustainability Plan and amendment to remove hydrant use with reasons why (water quality issue)
- Comments should be included that address the public's concern and should always be linked to the Sustainability Plan to clarify the legislation's role in the sustainable future of the City of Baltimore
- Need to focus on the plan's primary goals and have a positive focus (include 3 or 4 positive effects of the bill)

One plus One Legislation Vote

- Cheryl Casciani requested consent for the One Plus One Legislation
- All Commissioners present consented to the One Plus One Bill

Other Bills

- Tax related bills will be made available for review
- Need to have a finished memo by April 9, 2009
- Staff will draft a memo reviewing the opinions on the tax legislation
- Commissioners requested an informational session over the bag bills to be held in April

Initial Priorities for the Sustainability Plan

- Metrics
- Climate Action Plan
 - Baltimore Neighborhood Energy Challenge

- Federal Stimulus
 - Lynn Heller will organize a group to review the plan and prioritize goals
 - Sarah Zaleski will staff
 - Lorraine Doo
 - Rebecca Ruggles
 - Tim Foresman
 - Patrick McMahan
 - Jake Ruppert