



GREEN BUILDING MEETING ***Minutes of December 8, 2006***

ATTENDING MEMBERS:

Janet Connors – First Community Bank
Susan Gorin – City of Santa Rosa Council Person
Armando Navarro – Sonoma State University
Gary Pugh – Alternative Building Concepts
Mike Southworth – Winzler & Kelly
Glen Suyuyasu – Mead Clark
Doug Turner – Christopherson Homes
Mark Armstrong – City of Santa Rosa

Hanna Byun – City of Santa Rosa
Nicole Dorotinsky – City of Santa Rosa
Barbara Firestone – City of Santa Rosa
Gi-Jo Gim – City of Santa Rosa
Elise Howard – City of Santa Rosa
Dell Tredinnick – City of Santa Rosa
Mike Whitaker – City of Santa Rosa
Tasha Wright – City of Santa Rosa

Introduction: Dell Tredinnick thanked Mike Whitaker for hosting the December committee meeting at Community Development. He introduced to the committee Gi-Jo Gim, our guest engineer from Seoul, Korea, and Hanna Byun, who is a temporary City employee hired to help Gi-Jo translate complex regulatory documents. All of the other attendees introduced themselves to the group, going around the conference table.

Outreach Update: Dell stated that there has been a surge of interest in Green Building. He said that he received a call from the architect of the multi-use Roxy site, the mid-rise development with multi-family dwellings. He reported that the activity in the last month is because Green Building makes sense: it offers solutions to problems we are all facing, including energy costs. He said that we will continue to do outreach in the community to let people know what we are doing and look for help and ideas. The Project Manager team is doing PowerPoint presentations that can be tailored to fit the needs of the group requesting it.

Dell opened the discussion on the infusion of Green Building into the permit application process at Community Development (CD). He stressed that green building is cheaper to do the earlier in the process that it is introduced: it is desirable to introduce the principles at the design stage. Armando suggested that free one-hour consultations could be offered to permit applicants. He advised that members of the Executive Green Building Committee could volunteer their time to promote the program, help to sort out initial questions, provide a list of raters, and personalize delivery to builders. Doug Turner added that it would be an opportunity to emphasize the benefits: the good economics and the sense of pride. Tasha Wright suggested that a checklist of green building information could be developed to be included with the permit package. Mike Whitaker said that he would like them to be available at the counter in CD.

Action Item: Dell will put the green building flyer together and send it to Mike Whitaker for his edit.

Updates on Build It Green: Dell discussed the recent release of the new Green Building Guidelines that were adopted by City Council in June. He stated that water conservation is increasingly important as the population of Sonoma County grows. He said that the California Energy Commission (CEC) will give some input at the beginning of the year, the check list and guidelines will change to incorporate water conservation into the regulations, and City Council will readopt them. Susan Gorin added that bringing them to City Council lets the public know what's going on, because they follow City Council activities. Dell stated that the need for Build It Green (BIG) to publish guidelines again is an opportunity for Santa Rosa Build It Green (SR BIG) to customize them. He suggested that we could expound upon the cluster of communities both voluntary and mandatory that comprise SR BIG and portray the program's partnership with Sonoma State University.

Dell discussed the Affordable Green Event held in Oakland on 12/05/06 in Preservation Park. He stated that affective green building techniques were introduced and promoted as good for the building industry. Handbooks regarding PG&E rebates were offered.

Dell reported on the first annual BIG Guild Summit Event held at the Fort Mason Center in San Francisco on 12/06/06. He said that it was a good workshop involving the BIG network that includes the Build It Green Public Agency Council (BIG PAC) and building professionals from all over the Bay Area. Doug Turner also attended and stated that it was very well organized, and events were on time. He said that attendees met in small groups to discuss topics and to produce action items. Doug added that it was a full day with results and that "it charged his batteries."

Armando Navarro reported that the Green Building 2006 event in Denver was attended by 14,000 people from all over the world. He stated that he was impressed by the national conversation, addressing problems, constraints, and smart solutions. Armando said that event will be held in Los Angeles in November and that they expect twenty thousand to attend.

Dell discussed LEED standards for Homes, explaining that originally green building certificate applicants received points for Title 24 items, because the point system wasn't structured correctly. He said that the new guidelines have eliminated this duplication. Dell added that LEED standards for homes are very expensive. He said that they are the high-end partner to the Green Building program.

Announcements:

Armando announced that the Sonoma State University Spring Webcast Energy Forum will begin on January 31st. It is a series of 15 Wednesday lectures available for \$300 and includes the history of electrical production, energy efficiency, and hydrogen energy.

Mark Armstrong shared that the cool roof installation is complete now at the City Maintenance Garage; it has reflective coating, and there are no leaks. City Hall needs a reflective roof: that installation is slated for next summer.

Action Item: Mark will send to Dell data contrasting energy costs before and after the Garage's cool roof installation.

Nicole Dorotinsky announced that the City has applied for a grant to produce biodiesel fuel. She told the committee that the grant will fund the production of feedstock at Kelly Farm, where algae will be grown on wastewater from the Laguna Treatment Plant, which will be harvested and dried and made into a product that can be mixed to produce B5 or B20 fuel for use in the City fleet and for general sale. Nicole said that we are working with Sonoma State University and Royal Petroleum.

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 A.M.

NEXT MEETING: February 9, 2006 at the Municipal Services Center South in Conference Room 5 at 9 AM.