

## **SUSTAINABLE BLACKSBURG**

### **Board Meeting – Minutes – 21 October 2010**

*(Board Approved on 18 November 2010)*

**Time & Place:** 7:00 p.m. at Blacksburg Motor Company

**Board Members Present:** Roper, Ford, Lowe, Raridon, Claus, Garrison

**Board Members Absent:** Colley, Langrehr, Skutt, Mattingly, Randolph, Shubert

**Guests Present:** Will Liu

**Meeting Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Bill Claus

**Agenda Item #1:** Approval of October Agenda. Agenda was approved as presented.

**Agenda Item #2:** Approval of September Minutes. Minutes were approved as presented.

**Agenda Item #3:** Treasurer's Report & Web-page Calendar. – Roper presented the report. \$4,103.43 is in the bank, but there are remaining Sustainability Week bills to pay. Chef Roulette bill still needs to be paid but has not been received to date. All checks require two signatures for approval. Roper also presented the new features of the Sustainable Blacksburg website. The site now contains a Google calendar. Claus reported on an upcoming tour of the Ware Building on the Virginia Tech Campus. This is the first in a series of tours that will be sponsored by Sustainable Blacksburg in the upcoming months.

**Agenda Item #4:** Restarting the 'Green Samaritan' Program. Raridon reported that she would like to restart the program that was held at the library two years ago. Raridon will coordinate, and the library is supportive. The tentative schedule is as follows: Greening the holidays will be held in December; Energy saving techniques will be held in January; Sourcing local food will be held in February; Sustainable gardening will be held in March.

**Agenda Item #5:** Critique of 2010 SW & SF Events. Claus facilitated a discussion about the “good, bad, and ugly” of sustainability week events. There was a robust discussion about the validity of putting all of our efforts to a one week event. Given the time and resource constraints, should we spread out events throughout the year? It was decided to ask our partners, VT and Town of Blacksburg, if they want to hold the event next year. The Sustainability Week Steering Team will meet in early November. Should we include photos and archival material from the 2010 events on the Sustainability Week website?

**Agenda Item #6:** Potential SB Contribution to New BHS. Citizens are going to School Board on Monday night to make a proposal. They will ask the Board if citizens can build the school with sustainability in mind. The Board would then “rent to own”. A wing of the building would be devoted to sustainability issues. The request was for SB to support the request.

**Agenda Item #7:** Progress On the Bylaws Update. – Ford reported that he has gathered examples from other non-profits and will be using these documents to draft the Sustainable Blacksburg Bylaws which will be reviewed by the CAG and Sustainable Blacksburg Board. LeClairRyan would like to review the bylaws before the Board acts on the revisions.

**Agenda Item #8:** Community (VA Go Green) Challenge update. – Garrison reported that as part of the Go Green Community Challenge Pilot, the community will focus on baseline data surrounding energy efficiency, alternative transportation, and incentives for alternative transportation. There will also be “community conversations” around the topics of energy & climate; natural systems; planning & design; economic prosperity; employment & workforce training; arts education & community; children, health & safety; affordability & equity. The proposed focus areas will be presented to Town Council in November for approval. It is highly likely that there will be many roles for Sustainable Blacksburg as the initiative moves forward in 2011.

**Agenda Item #9:** Climate Action Plan Update. – Garrison reported that there is much activity surrounding the community Climate Action Plan. Public meetings; two open houses; and several focus group meetings have been held. It is anticipated that the draft plan will be presented to Town Council in early 2011. Once the plan is approved by Town Council, it will be necessary to begin educating the community about actions that must be taken to reduce energy use in Blacksburg. It is highly likely that the Town will ask Sustainable Blacksburg to partner in the education to action phase of the project.

**Agenda Item #10:** Membership Requirements & Fund-Raising Ideas. Tabled for November

**Agenda Item #11:** Open time for suggestions from Board and others: Garrison mentioned the Regional Sustainability Plan and requested time on the next meeting to discuss.

**Agenda Item #12:** Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

**Susan Garrison, Secretary**