

Sustainable Blacksburg

Minutes – Board of Directors Meeting – 31 Jan 2012

(Copy approved by the Board on 10 February 2012)

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

Board Members Present: Claus, Garrison, Lowe, Ford, Colley, Raridon, Skutt

Board Members Absent: Langrehr

Board Nominees Present: Kimberley Homer, Jackie Pontious, John Randolph, Dave Roper, Bob Shubert

Guests Present: none

Call to Order: Claus called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Agenda Item # 1: Approve Agenda. Lowe moved approval of the agenda. Roper seconded. Unanimous Approval.

Agenda Item # 2: Treasurer's Report. Roper reported that the SB checking account balance is \$2841, minus a \$25 registration fee to the State Corporation Commission. Roper will fill out the forms for 2011 taxes soon. Claus has submitted the annual report to the State Corporation Commission for 2011.

Agenda Item # 3: Nominations for Board Membership. Five candidates were nominated for election to serve a three-year term, expiring in 2014. These were: Kimberley Homer, Jackie Pontious, John Randolph, Dave Roper, and Bob Shubert. Each candidate spoke for a few minutes about why he or she wished to serve. (We hope to have a paragraph from each board member available on the Sustainable Blacksburg web site at a later date, but written statements were not provided for the minutes.) Since there were five candidates for four positions, Roper encouraged the other board members to vote for the remaining nominees and said he would serve SB in other ways.

Agenda Item # 4: Election of Board Members. Following Roper's suggestion, board members elected to terms expiring in 2014 were Homer, Pontious, Randolph, and Shubert.

Agenda Item # 5: Appointment of Officers. Claus agreed to continue as president. Roper's departure from the Board necessitated appointment of a new treasurer. Randolph moved, and Colley seconded, that Ford be appointed as treasurer and Lowe as vice president. Homer moved and Colley seconded that Garrison continue as secretary for 2012, with Homer taking minutes and serving as backup for Garrison. Both motions carried. Roper said he would help the new treasurer file federal tax forms.

Agenda Item # 6: Introduction to Proposed Bylaw Changes. Ford described the purpose and intent of revising the Sustainable Blacksburg bylaws. Articles were added which clearly state name and purpose, and the bylaws have been re-ordered for clearer organization, understanding, and use. The bylaws from the Lyric Council, Sustain Floyd, and Local Motion (in Vermont) were used as models. The revised bylaws were reviewed by the SB Core Advisory Group and by Jeff Mitchell, attorney, and modified according to his suggestions.

Ford highlighted some of the changes. Article V, on committees, was revised and simplified. It is no longer required for SB board members to be on each committee. Article VI concerns financial matters, and Article VII concerns membership and dues. Glenn asked if committees mentioned in the bylaws are populated. Ford clarified that anyone can be a member, so there is no housekeeping to keep track of membership. The board has the power to remove someone from a committee, if it deems removal to be in the interest of SB. Raridon said that membership is open to all, and people join by signing up for the Listserv. Claus added that sponsorships and contributing memberships will be available and encouraged, but there are no dues.

Skutt asked a question about our 501(c)3 status being transferrable to other organizations, and there was consensus that this was not allowed.

Agenda Item # 7: Vote to Approve Amended Bylaws. Randolph moved, and Raridon seconded, approval of the revised bylaws. The motion carried unanimously. The board expressed appreciation to Ford for his work.

Agenda Item #8: Introduction to the New SB Blog. Claus demonstrated the new SB blog found at the following URL:

<http://sustainableblacksburg.blogspot.com>

The purpose of the blog is to get more people commenting. There are 260 people on the Listserv, but we need to broaden our scope to get more input from the community. Bill asks us to go to the blog, find a topic of interest, and post suggestions.

Agenda Item #9: Open Discussion Among Board Members. Raridon asked, "What's next?" Claus said the minutes from the Core Advisory Group (CAG), which is being renamed the Executive Committee (EC), will be sent out every two weeks. In this way, all Board Directors will be able to keep track of what is being planned. The next EC meeting will include library event planning, among other topics. Ford suggested that the next General Meeting on February 28th will generate ideas that could inform the next board meeting. Firm dates on upcoming events are on the SB Calendar. Review at <http://www.sustainableblacksburg.org/>

The Executive Committee meets on second and fourth Thursdays from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Price House second floor conference room on Wharton Street. All are welcome to attend.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment. Raridon moved that we adjourn. Pontious seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.