

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## District Department of the Environment



### Green Building Advisory Council

**Meeting Date:** 8/1/2012

**Meeting Location:** DDOE, 1200 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW

**Attendees:** Bill Updike (DDOE), Cliff Majersik (IMT), Marshall Duer-Balkind (DDOE/IMT), Barry Weise (DDOE), Chris VanArsdale (W.C. Smith), Patty Rose (Greenspace NCR), Rabbiah Sabbakhan (DCRA), R. Denise Everson (DCHA), Hussain Karim (DDOE), MaryLynn Wilhere (DDOE), Maribeth DeLorenzo (DHCD), Laine Cidlowski (OP)

### Main Points/Discussion:

- **Introductions**
  
- **Green Building Report Release (Bill Updike)**
  - Discussed the idea of releasing the report at the DCRA Green Building Symposium in September [ACTION: Robbie/Bill have discussed this and will work to make it happen.]
  - Also need to have targeted meetings with DCBIA, AOBA, BID Council, Sustainable DC groups, AIA COTE DC, USGBC-NCR, and others [ACTION: Bill to follow up.]
  - Discussion of presenting to the group of development Sustainability Directors that has formed [ACTION: Bill will be meeting with this group in September to discuss green codes, and will also bring copies of the Green Building Report.]
  
- **Green Construction Code Update (Bill Updike)**
  - Planning on doing a crosswalk between LEED and the green construction code proposals that are currently being discussed. Will also need to do a crosswalk with Green Communities. [UPDATE: USGBC is developing a tool to make this easier—it should be ready sometime this Fall.]
  - Discussion of the need to tailor the green code to the needs and goals of the District (in relation to Sustainable DC and otherwise).
  - Discussion of data needs and the GBIG portal.
  - Discussion of commissioning requirements in the code. Laine asked if commissioning outcomes will be covered in GBIG. Denise mentioned that DCHA is doing continuous commissioning.
  - Discussion of the Appendix A chapter of the IgCC and how it relates to the LEED requirement in the Green Building Act.

- **Green Building Fund Update (Robbie Sabbakhan)**
  - Robbie said that the funds deposited in the Green Building Fund for FY12 (to date) are \$795,918 (but it looks on pace to exceed \$900,000).
  - The funds currently spent in FY12 are \$243,620 (to cover salary and benefits for 2 FTEs)
  - DCRA has projected expenditures of \$701,030 in FY13, which includes \$316,388 for 3 FTEs, \$5,000 for supplies, \$195,363 for contractual services and \$184,279 for all other Green Building Plan activities, which may include, but not limited to training, travel, professional services, etc.
  - Discussed a possible need to have a separate meeting with someone from DCRA's CFO's office in order to verify the status of the FY12 funds.
  - Maribeth suggested that the affordable housing agencies have a need for an interagency green building coordinator that could be funded by the Green Building Fund to help with benchmarking and other green building issues and opportunities.
  - Cliff discussed the possibility of using some of the Green Building Fund resources to increase compliance with the green construction codes (both in terms of DCRA staff and community training).
  - GBAC members discussed a desire to receive quarterly reports on the Green Building Fund from DCRA's CFO.
  
- **Greenspace Update (Patty Rose)**
  - DDOE requested \$1.5 million for the build-out of Greenspace and received passive approval from the city council at the end of June
  - Greenspace is planning on a 2013 groundbreaking
  
- **Exemption Requests Update (Barry Weise)**
  - Discussion of the request by E.L. Haynes Charter School for an exemption from the GBA
  - DDOE is denying the exemption request, and rejecting the position of E.L. Haynes that the project can't receive LEED certification because it is an addition to an existing building (USGBC has offered guidance on how you can get certifications for additions)
  - Though the exemption request will be denied, there is no punishment other than the denial of future public funding.
  
- **Roundtable Updates**
  - Marshall – DDOE published the proposed benchmarking regulations in July. There will be an all day affordable housing benchmarking event on 10/11/12—details to follow.

- Chris VanArsdale – Canal Park will host a ribbon cutting in November—details to follow.
- Maribeth DeLorenzo – DHCD has hired a new director, Michael Kelly, who is very supportive of sustainability.
- Laine Cidlowski – Sustainable DC hosted a successful Twitter Town Hall recently, featuring Directors Tregoning and Tulou. Analysis of the costs and benefits of various measures will go back to the working groups soon. SDC planners are shooting to have the draft implementation plan out in September or October. There will be a competitive fund that District agencies can apply for innovative sustainability projects—more details to come.
- Robbie Sabbakhan—DCRA will be hosting a Green Building Symposium at the Galludet Kellogg Center on September 14 that will include the Mayor, Director Tregoning and George Hawkins from DC Water.
- Cliff Majersik – Discussion of the programs of the DC SEU and the need to find projects for possible funding. SEU will be providing training to DCRA staff on the new Energy Conservation Codes. IMT developed brochures in conjunction with DCRA to explain the Energy Codes to designers and builders—they are available on DCRA’s website. There is an intern that is fielding calls regarding benchmarking to support compliance with the new regulations. General discussion of PEPCO/Washington Gas data access efforts. The conversation is continuing with the utilities, and progress is being made. Legislation will ultimately be required to address the issue. There will need to be letters written to the utilities from the private sector, and from the public building owners. A new group has formed to address the issue called the Energy Data Alliance ([www.energydataalliance.org](http://www.energydataalliance.org)). IMT, BOMA, the Real Estate Roundtable, USGBC, NRDC, and Enterprise are members.
- Barry Weise – There is a draft regulation for construction and demolition waste recycling, and DCBIA is putting together a working group with DDOE to discuss it.

**Next Steps:**

- Set up a meeting with DCRA CFO to discuss Green Building Fund
- DDOE to reach out to interest groups regarding Green Building Report
- DDOE to seek input from GBAC on C&D legislative process
- DGS/DDOE to finalize and release the 2010/2011 public building benchmarking report
- DDOE will pursue GBAC appointments/reappointments with Boards and Commissions

**Date for next meeting:** October 3, 2012

**Location for next meeting:** DDOE, 1200 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW

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**Contact:** [william.updike@dc.gov](mailto:william.updike@dc.gov)