

# BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

## MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday, August 30, 2007 - 7-9pm**  
**City Manager's Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Portsmouth City Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Committee members present were Ann Walker, Bert Cohen, Gary Epler, Sandi Hennequin, Ned Raynolds and Tom Rooney. Also in attendance were Peter Britz – Environmental Planner for City of Portsmouth and Tobias Marquette – Rochester Energy & Sustainable Building Committee.

Before getting into the agenda items, Tobias Marquette was given the opportunity to introduce himself and briefly describe the Rockingham/Strafford Energy Committee Alliance. Tobias noted that the initial, formative meeting of the Alliance will be held on September 25, 2007 from 6-8:30pm at the UNH Alumni Center – 1925 Room. One of the goals of the Alliance is to bring towns together to share ideas and learn from each other.

A brief description of the discussion concerning the specific agenda items is included below:

### 1. Old Business

- Status of letter from Committee to School Board/City Council

*The Committee discussed the idea of drafting a letter to the City Council and School Board that applauds their efforts on promoting sustainable practices through the inclusion of LEED in the RFQ recently released for the Middle School. This letter would also highlight the strong linkage between the LEED System and the City's Master Plan. The Committee would also offer to conduct a presentation to the Council that describes the LEED System and how its components are consistent with the Master Plan.*

- Update on wind turbine at DPW issue

*Peter Britz provided an update on the possibility of installing a wind turbine at the DPW site on Peverly Road. The results of a preliminary screening were that this was not a good site for a wind turbine. The DPW facility is in need of a new roof and the City is looking at installing skylights for additional daylighting. The Committee suggested that the City consider a small, residential-scale wind turbine that could serve as a demonstration project. Peter will report back on the possibility of this approach.*

## 2. ICLEI Process

- Discussion of report

*Peter Britz reported that the ICLEI Report will be complete by mid-September.*

## 5. Portsmouth “Eco-Municipality” Initiative

*Bert Cohen distributed the City of Washburn, WA resolution as an example of what the Committee could propose to the City of Portsmouth. The Committee discussed the concept of Portsmouth becoming an Eco-Municipality and generally agreed that it was a good way to formalize many of the sustainable practices that the City has undertaken over the past few years. Bert will develop a draft resolution for Portsmouth and bring it to the next meeting for discussion. The plan is to formally recommend the resolution to the City Council in October.*

## 6. Other Issues of Interest

*Gary Epler noted that the second annual Seacoast Local Festival was being held on September 8<sup>th</sup> and passed out a flyer.*

## 7. Adjournment

*Meeting was adjourned at 9:00.*