

# BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

**Thursday, March 26, 2009**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**City Manager's Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Portsmouth City Hall**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Attending Members:** *Peter Britz, Bert Cohen, Councilor Spear, Ann Walker, and Tom Rooney*

### **1. Old Business**

- a. Status of NH Carbon Challenge effort for Portsmouth – Peter Britz  
*Peter distributed the Press Release describing the competition between City staff from Portsmouth and Keene. Committee discussed how this will be a good way to raise awareness within the City staff and community-wide to encourage voluntary local action.*
- b. Status of ICLEI Action Plan – Peter Britz  
*Peter is working with Shannon, an intern to the city, on developing the Action Plan.*

### **2. Update on Sustainability Plan for Portsmouth**

- a. Community Voices Identified  
*Representatives from the following categories: business, education, non-governmental organization (NGO), neighborhoods, and City government*
- b. Next Steps  
*First Steering Committee meeting will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup>*

### **3. Sustainability Fair Update**

*The main purpose of the Sustainability Fair is to educate the community of the four System Conditions of the Natural Step. There were 72 vendors last year and we expect more this year. Planning for a zero waste event again. New features this year include a: Sustainability Home Tour, Solar Water Heating Barn Raising, and a Speaker's Bureau that will occur on the four Mondays leading up to the Fair.*

### **4. Discussion of School Planning – New Middle School**

*Ann Walker reported that the schedule is up in the air. There is no contract signed with the architect yet and there will be 3-5 months of design.*

### **5. Make-up of Committee – New Members & Need for More**

*Formal letters of resignation are needed from the Committee members in order to the Mayor to appoint new members. Tom will contact resigning members concerning letters.*