

## Morgantown Green Team

Meeting Notes 8/1/13 Action items are in **bold**.

Attendees: Jeff Simcoe (Downstream Strategies), Erik Edwards, Lisa Lagane (Mgn Farmers Market), Bill Kawecki (Morgantown City Council), Ella Belling (Mon River Trails Conservancy), Trevor Llyod (City of Morgantown), Jim Katcow, Aaron Sutch (Mountain Institute), Barbara Walker

1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory – Jeff Simcoe, Project Manager, presented information on Downstream Strategies' GHG Inventory project. This project is a year-long study funded by a grant from Appalachian Stewardship. The goal is to provide a 2012 baseline inventory of the level of greenhouse gas generated by the city of Morgantown using the International Council for Local Environmental Initiative (ICLEI) protocol. Last week, Downstream Strategies presented the project to the Morgantown City Council to request support. DS would like the Green Team to support the project by assisting with community outreach and stakeholder involvement. The City of Westover is not participating and the City of Star City is currently considering participation. The data for the City of Morgantown and WVU will be analyzed separately to facilitate the use of the data for future action. Phase I of the project is the baseline inventory based on 2012 data and is slated to be complete by June 2014. Phase II (pending funding) will analyze ways to reduce GHG. Jim asked about opportunities for student intern volunteers to help with the project. Jim and Jeff will work together to coordinate this.
2. Trevor and Aaron reported on their meeting with the City Manager. The CM gave input on how the Green Team can help him. They discussed the wording of resolutions so that they are more inclusive when they go before the Council. The Green Team will be working to raising issues as factually and apolitically as possible based on analysis of real-world issues (e.g. comparing actual and projects readings of electricity use to show savings). Other items discussed were the energy audit, recycling, energy efficiency training for city employees, and outreach to local businesses.
3. Opportunity to coordinate with Adventure West Virginia to organize River Clean-up to provide a service project for WVU students on August 16. Tim Terman usually coordinates but he is on vacation and he sold his boat. Tim told Aaron that the DNR could supply boats. It looks like there is not enough time to coordinate this, but **Eric will contact the DNR** and see what it would take to make it happen. (notes from last meeting: Fran agreed to contact Mayor Selin about City co-sponsorship, especially as to how to dispose of collected trash. Jim Kotcon will talk with Kyle Hartman about accessing WVU boats, as well as developing assistance from student organizations.)
4. Ella mentioned the Rivertown Program. This is a funding mechanism for riverfront improvement projects. The organization is presenting to Westover and Morgantown Cities on August 20.
5. We discussed the problem of lack of recycling by the downtown businesses. There is not enough space for garbage or recycling. We need to find out what other cities with similar issues do about this. No-one has time to pick up this issue right now.
6. We decided to create an "Idea Hopper." This would be a table or simple database where we can document ideas and problems /opportunities that cannot be picked up right away by anyone in

the group. We can document the issue, obstacles, and possible actions so that if any individuals or groups become available and would like ideas for projects, they can consider the projects in the Idea Hopper. **We need someone to spearhead the creation of the Idea Hopper.**

7. Ella expressed concern about the generation of a lot of paint waste in the near future. She thought she heard that Downtown Morgantown won a Paint the City Award given by Benjamin Moore.
8. Energy Committee Update
  - a. The Energy Committee did not meet this past month. Jim gave a background on the Energy Committee for the new people.
  - b. Trevor discussed the City's fleet with respect to reducing fuel consumption; it may be better to wait on this issue until the fuel tracking system is updated in the next year or so. Right now, the system is outdated and it is difficult to analyze the data. Once it is updated, it will be easy to pull the data one needs. In addition, Trevor discussed that one of the difficulties of replacing the gas-guzzlers in the fleet is that many of these vehicles had a very low or no purchase cost (e.g. old police cars are used as code enforcement cars). The fuel efficiency of replacing these vehicles may not offset the purchase price of the replacement vehicles compared to the replacement cost when using older used vehicles that come to the City at a very low cost.
  - c. Street Lamps update: The City did a study of light level readings to compare the coverage of metal halides vs LEDs. Two locations were studied. For one location, there was very little difference between the amounts of light given by the two kinds of lamps. In the other location, there was inconsistent data that may have been caused by an outlying source of light. The conclusion is that we don't need to have a high density of lamps (more poles) in if we use LEDs. Trevor still needs to crunch the numbers to see what the payback will be for switching to LEDs. (The City has to buy the poles to do this because the power company won't switch to LEDs on the poles they own.) With that being said, there have been complaints by the police and others that there is not enough light in downtown Morgantown even in the areas with halides, so this needs to be considered in future decisions about lighting infrastructure.
9. Aaron briefly discussed a proposal for solarized Morgantown to gauge interest. This is by a WV-based non-profit organization that has worked in DC, MD, and VA on Community Power Network (<http://communitypowernetwork.com/>). The goal of the proposal is to make it easier and more affordable for residents to install solar equipment. **Aaron will get more information.** Dan Conet is the POC.
10. Farmer's Market Solar Array online production monitor will soon be operating.
11. Fall Programming: Pam usually organizes and needs a substitute for September or October. The September meeting topic is the GHG Inventory and personal carbon footprint calculations. **Barbara will contact Pam and organize the Sept or Oct event.**

**Next Meeting: Thursday, September 5, 2013, 5:30 pm, City Council Chambers, 389 Spruce Street**

Notes submitted by Barbara Walker

**Some items from last month's notes that were not discussed and maybe should be added to next month's agenda:**

- Green Buildings initiative, including the North Side Fire Station, and work on a brochure for builders.
- Promoting The Year Of Its Easy Being Green.
- Outreach to the business community to identify opportunities and obstacles to green businesses.
- "GreenWelcome" brochure with info to new residents on how to practice green living in Morgantown – Pam Clobberly said she would like to help, or take the lead on this
- The Pedestrian Safety Board would like to meet with the Green Team to develop pedestrian safety plans. POC is Ella Belling.
- Future Green Nights:
  - October – Morgantown Tree Board and the Year Of The Tree
  - November – Home energy efficiency and weatherization
  - January – Recycling;
  - April – Resource Fair with Lisa Lagana