
**TOWN OF CARRBORO
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD – SUMMARY**



Meeting on August 13th, 2009 at 7:00 pm, Town Hall

| Board Members | | Guests | Staff |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jennifer Winston (acting chair) | Randee Haven O'Donnell | Nina Butler | Randy Dodd |
| Tom Mullen | Lynn Weller (absent) | Geoff Gisler | |
| Andreas Hay | Dana Stidham (absent) | | |
| Matthew Arnsberger (absent) | | | |

Call to Order, Administrative Matters

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. Minutes from June 4th were approved unanimously. Jennifer shared that she will be taking classes Thursday night this fall that will preclude her ability to attend meetings on Thursdays, and asked if she should step down or request a leave of absence. She would like to continue with the EAB after the fall. Randee asked if there was a means for providing online electronic file access for the attachments that get sent to the EAB. Randy will check with staff. She also mentioned the work of the Sustain Foundation and their potential interest in collaborating with the EAB. Randy mentioned that tentatively it appears as if there would be a joint review on September 3rd for the Goddard School.

Recruiting

Nina and Geoff introduced themselves and discussed their qualifications and interest in serving on the EAB. There is currently one open position. The EAB deferred on making a recommendation until other members were able to participate in a decision.

Transition Towns Report

In addition to a staff memo, Randy provided a presentation which was followed by a discussion of the Transition Network and model. The presentation was a broad introduction to Transition Towns from roots in the UK, how it's spreading in the US, core ideas, and recent local interest. This is an internationally coordinated but grassroots oriented movement focused on empowering communities to plan for and transition through the global realities of peak oil and climate change. There is a local effort underway to pursue the Transition model. Some of the topics of discussion included: working with the Transition approach in a way that is inclusive of different locations around Town; seeing this as an umbrella for working with different existing initiatives and groups (LLETF, BALLE, NC Powerdown, local climate action plan, other advisory boards, etc.); comparison to the Natural Step process (e.g., in Madison, WI). Some interest was expressed in inviting one or more members of the Transition Carrboro/Chapel Hill Steering Committee to a future EAB meeting. There was also a brief discussion of the process advocated for in the Transition approach of "Open Space".

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 3rd, 2009, 7:00 pm at Town Hall.