

Detroit Green Task Force Meeting

September 30, 2010

-Minutes-

Meeting was called to order at 3:14 p.m. by Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr., in Barth Hall at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, in Detroit.

Introductions – Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

Welcome – to Mrs. Roshani Dantas, this was her first Green Task Force meeting. Roshani has joined our team as lead staff person in Green Initiatives and the Task Force. Mrs. Dantas has extensive environmental experience having previously worked for the Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice and most recently for T.H.A.W.

Water Subcommittee Update

The Water Subcommittee met last on September 8, 2010. They discussed the impact of stormwater and water quality in Detroit. They would like to focus on:

- Stormwater runoff management
- Stormwater pollution prevention
- Water (drinking water) use efficiency and reuse
- Wastewater and grey water reuse

Green Jobs/ Green Business Subcommittee Update

The first meeting of the Green Jobs / Green Business Subcommittee was on September 13, 2010. The focus was on:

- The need to drive job creation
- Businesses connecting with businesses for more opportunities
- Discussing the barriers that we have and solve them so that green businesses can grow in our city
- Companies need be aware of programs that pay for on the job training as well as incentive programs

CPC Green Building Report

Final report is not complete yet and no set date for completion at this time. They are compiling data on what other cities are doing, Detroit seems to be behind, as others have policies that are decades old. Being behind is not always a bad thing, we have many examples to go by in order to get things right the first time. There is no plan at this time to look at other cities effective standards, but we are aware of other cities initiatives.

Urban Agriculture Update – Catherine Lynch Underwood

Right to Farm Act was discussed. Are most people familiar with this? We need to figure out if it is wise to go around this. This needs to be resolved before we have codes on the books. Ideally Detroit should be exempt from the Right to Farm Act, as to not harm the Act.

Soil testing should be mandatory. This needs to be in any policy that is created. With the Greening of Detroit, soil testing is mandatory for all who participate in their programs.

Green Works Update

Detroit GreenWorks Solutions was presented. Their job training programs include:

- Weatherization
- Deconstruction & Material Reuse
- Green Construction
- Retrofit Technologies
- Efficiency & Renewable Energy Technologies
- Energy Auditing
- Landscaping & Forestry

Detroit GreenWorks focuses on helping: Unemployed, High School drop outs, Returning citizens, Veterans or Low Income residents of Southeast Detroit.

Green the Block Update

On October 10, Green the Block will be working with 350.org and millions of people around the world for the 10/10/10 Global Work Party. People all over the planet will spend the day working on climate solutions.

Our Youth Subcommittee needs tools to green their neighborhoods.

Youth Subcommittee Update – Michelle Jackson

The Youth Subcommittee met on September 24, 2010. The committee members have been working to create a vision and mission statement. The vision and mission statements were presented as such:

- **Vision:** Rehabilitating our committee through youth eyes by providing education, stabilization, morals, safe haven and values for at risk youth.
- **Mission:** Bringing together our community through the eyes of our brothers and sisters, young and old, building bridges and breaking down barriers.

Announcements

- **October 1, 2010**, the \$10 Recreation Passport from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment will replace the state park sticker to provide access to all state parks and recreation areas. To get your Recreation Passport, simply check "YES" on your license plate renewal form.
- **October 3, 2010**, Corktowns Green Community event. Corktowns community intention is to reinvent itself as Detroit's first sustainable community. The celebration will be held from 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m., in front of the Michigan Central Station in Roosevelt park.
- **October 5, 2010**: Detroit City Council Member Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr., Presents: A Crime Prevention Town Hall Meeting, Tuesday, October 5, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Greater New Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church. RSVP 313-224-4505 by Tuesday, September 30, 2010
- **October 7, 2010** – Warm Training Center presents Green Policies, Codes, and Ordinances for Local governments. Time 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Wayne County Community College, Welcome Center, Student Lounge, 8200 W. Outer Drive, Detroit, MI.
- **October 10, 2010** – Green the Block go to <http://greentheblock.net/>
- **October 15-17, 2010** - The 6th Annual Great Lakes Bioneers Detroit Conference, at Marygrove College, 8425 McNichols Road. info@glbd.org

The Next Green Task Force Meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2010, from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Avenue, 13th Floor, Committee of the Whole.