

A Cool Cities Advisory Group meeting was held at BUNN-O-MATIC 22 September.

In attendance:

Bob Kobylarz

Bob Ruff

Bryan Johnsrud

Jay Neposchlan

Ernie Slottag

Bill Mills

Agenda items discussed:

◆ Review of the meeting with Mayor Davlin (comments, observations, ideas, interpretations, etc) – No comments, observations or information was added to the meeting minutes from 25 August

◆ Discussion of the 'sun ray' reps for each of the groups and a possible meeting to bring the reps together. Bob Kobylarz explained that within the 'sun ray' model individuals are beginning to be identified to represent accomplishments within each ray. A comment was made that we may need to review the existing model to assure all segments of our community are represented. We decided that this would be good discussion for the offsite planning meeting. **ASSIGNMENT:** Each group member to review the sun ray chart and identify addition community segments which need to be added.

◆ Offsite meeting to create a more formal group as the advisory council – It was discussed that there would be value in an offsite meeting to formalize the details of the Group including mission, objectives and purpose statements. Also at the meeting we can begin to identify specific assignments and responsibilities. Jay Neposchlan suggested that the end of the week would be better than early in the week. **ASSIGNMENT:** Each group member email Bob Kobylarz. We discussed the possibility of a Friday afternoon. Hopefully we can identify a time and date at the next meeting.

◆ Bill Mills' 10 bullet activities for our municipality to accomplish: Bill Mills presented work that was done at CWL&P to identify projects which can be presented to Mayor Davlin. These are:

1. Memo to departmental directors and division chiefs instructing each key division to form a green team, to engage employees in an internal review process and suggest simple but effective changes that will help us reduce discards, reuse and recycle more, save energy and water, etc.

- Form the citywide green team plan or schedule and goals with oversight by the Energy Services Office and Waste & Recycling Division. Kick off green teams in honor of America Recycles Day on Nov 15.

- Have green teams review the physical space in their areas for optimal, convenient placement of recycling bins/storage areas. Consider whether any additional materials can readily be recycled.

- Green Teams contest: which department or division team can come up with the idea that saves the most resources, that most creatively "repurposes" an item to a new use, or recycles the most in a given period. Consider judging or voting at the annual chili cook-off?

- Employee green teams could collect dairy bowls, cottage cheese containers, plastic bags, etc.

for reuse at the local breadlines. Travel size toiletries can be collected to donate to homeless shelters, especially at holiday time.

2. The city's municipal offices trash/recycling contract is coming up for renewal in November. Based on the results of the recent CWLP waste sort, consider requesting smaller dumpsters and/or fewer weekly pickups to save money. Use green team suggestions to further tweak for next year's service contract, and thus, strike only a single year service contract for this round.

3. Have expert staff from Energy Services Office and Waste & Recycling Division conduct employee training or education presentations on simple steps to take at work and at home to reduce environmental impact.

4. Implement a citywide 2-sided copying and printing policy...make 2-sided printing/copying the default on all printers and copiers. This will force users to think before making it single sided, rather than having to think to make it double sided. Half the paper = half the cost of purchase plus only half to recycle or dispose.

5. Review all major departmental mailings for efficiency – put methods in place to catch and not send return mail envelopes, etc. needlessly. (i.e. CWLP still puts return envelopes in the bills even for those who pay electronically automatically)

6. Purchasing policy review: consider purchasing preferences for those products with least waste, 100% recyclable packaging, post-consumer recycled content, etc. when these will perform as well and not cost substantively more. Consider issuing an executive order or proclamation on this. Measure/report results after a year of implementation.

7. Partner with Bunn-O-Matic to recycle batteries and/or plastic bags. Bunn can provide free recycling/shipping, City of Springfield can help by taping the ends of the batteries (required before shipping).

8. Research corrugated cardboard recycling options – consider whether the City can create a new revenue stream from the cardboard tonnage by consolidating all materials from all departments in one place for recycling. Consider whether a pilot recycling program in the downtown area with Downtown Springfield Inc. as a partner makes sense for our participation.

9. Conduct a physical walk through and review of each facility for energy efficiency using Energy Services Office staff. Make recommendations for any immediate, affordable changes, phased approach for more expensive changes.

10. Physical walk through and review of each facility for water use efficiency using CWLP Water Division staff. Make recommendations for any immediate, affordable changes, phased approach for more expensive changes.

◆ Review of input received from LLCC and Jubilee Farms as to environmental accomplishments any other discussion brought to the meeting – The two reports received represent input from sun rays and will be emailed to the Advisory Group

◆ Choice of a Cool City with a successful program that we can benchmark: **ASSIGNMENT:** The group agreed that each of us needs to research cities that can be benchmarked. We also discussed the value of benchmarking effective programs but also programs that fell short of expectations and understand why.

◆ Next meeting: 13 Oct at BUNN

REVIEW OF ASSIGNMENTS

- ◆ Each group member to review the sun ray chart and identify addition community segments which need to be added.
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