

## **Sustainable Sandhills (SS) FY 2010-2011**

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2010  
Moore County Chamber of Commerce Conference Room

### **SS Board Members Present:**

Patrick Coughlin	Sara Harrington	Jackie Hough
Harry Huberth	Monita McLaurin	Ray Ogden
John Portman	Joey Raczkowski	Maureen Sutton
Charlene Sumlin-Cross	Assad Tavakoli	James Wilson

### **SS Board Members Absent:**

Gregory Bean*	Deborah Branson	Greg Burns*
Harold Haywood	Dave Heins*	Gloria Leitz
Mark Locklear	Jim Matheny	James Rose
Chris Russo*	COL Sicinski*	Steven Singletary
Frank Stump	Theresa Thompson	

\*non-voting member

### **Sustainable Sandhills Staff present:**

Jon Parsons, Executive Director	Jackie Bradley, Office Manager
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**Vice Chair Joey Raczkowski opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m.** He stated that Chair Rose had health issues and would not be able to attend the meeting. He also noted that the Board meeting did not have a quorum and asked that non-voting issues be discussed, beginning with Committee Reports. He said that other members were expected to arrive late thus giving a quorum, and at that time voting issues would be discussed.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Fundraising:** Committee Chair James Wilson reported on the status of SS Fundraising Plan strategies, including:
  - the membership drive (approximately \$10k towards a goal of \$18K, 125 members).
  - Corporate Giving: we continue to work with PWC to secure a corporate donation of \$20K to support energy conservation work in the Cumberland County Schools.
  - Event Sponsorships: Heather Brown and Linda Parsons (MC Chamber VP) worked with Waste Management who agreed to be a \$3K sponsor for the Regional Sustainability Symposium (RSS) in November.
  - Individual Donations: Parsons and SS staff will begin to pursue a list of prospects on both sides of the region.
  - House Parties: Board members were asked if anyone else is willing to host another house party.
  - Additional Board giving: \$4,300.00 has been pledged by the Board and approximately \$1,000 has been collected to date.
- **PR & Outreach:** Committee Chair John Portman made this Committee Report. He noted the approved Branding Standards and Communications Plan in the Board handouts. He referred to the attached PR & Outreach Committee Report. He noted the focus on upcoming events (Pickin' on the Porch, Annual Meeting, and the RSS) and publicizing the Student Energy Internship Program. Portman noted that Committee members committed

to bearing some of the responsibility for publicizing SS news and events in their communities. He then reviewed the media activity report.

- **Events:** Committee Chair Harry Huberth noted the Annual Meeting immediately following this Board meeting and Heather Brown's role in planning it. The next 2 events are the Pickin' on the Porch on October 7, and the Regional Sustainability Symposium on November 10. The Committee has not identified any events for next year yet, but there is a possibility of being involved with a low-impact development workshop and most likely the Urban Farm Tour in April. He welcomes Board member input after this meeting.
- **Nominations:** Committee Chair Joey Raczkowski noted that Earnest Curry (Cumberland County) is interested in joining the Board of Directors, having been invited by Jon Parsons. James Wilson and Jon Parsons both spoke on behalf of Mr. Curry. Tom Dossenbach from Lee County has also been mentioned as a good candidate for the SS Board, although he has not been contacted yet. Jackie Hough said that she has some suggestions for board members from Scotland and Montgomery Counties. She will be glad to approach these individuals and see if they have an interest in joining the Board.

**There now being a quorum, Vice Chair Raczkowski called the voting portion of the Board meeting to order at 4:20 p.m.**

After the call to order, **a motion was made to nominate Earnest Curry to the board by Maureen Sutton. The motion was seconded by Assad Tavakoli and passed with a unanimous vote.**

- **Program Committee:** In the absence of Committee Chair Steve Singletary. Jon Parsons gave the Committee report. He noted that Singletary was absent because his laboratory at FSU was being featured on WRAL-TV today so he could not attend this meeting. Parsons noted that the Program Committee is made up of SS Board members as well as some volunteers, and referred to the Program Committee handout. The Committee has accomplished a review of SS programs and resources. The Committee hopes to meet two more times before next Board meeting in November. These dates have not yet been set. He noted that several of the Committee volunteers were not familiar with our programs and what came out in the Committee review was clarification of programs. This Committee's work addresses the fifth goal of the 2010 SS Strategic Plan.

**Chair Report:**

**A motion to accept the July 13, 2010, Board Minutes as written was made by Harry Huberth. The Motion was seconded by James Wilson and passed with a unanimous vote.**

**Treasurer Report:**

Treasurer Ray Ogden referred to the financial statement and cash flow handouts, and noted how important cash flow was for this organization. He noted that receipts improved in August because of CTC subcontract payments. The Staff has work ongoing with fundraising. Payroll was delayed for several employees for a couple of weeks in July, so August and September are catch-up months. Fundraising results are key to this year's budget goals. In November, a budget review will be done to consider a budget revision. **A motion to approve the financial**

report as given was made by Harry Huberth. It was seconded by Jackie Hough and passed with a unanimous vote.

### Staff Report:

ED Parsons used the detailed Staff Report handout for this section of the meeting.

- **Grantseeking & Earned Income**
- **Community Action Team Highlights**
  - Cumberland: continues to be strong.
  - Harnett: activity will pick up in October with a film screening and November with some outreach presentations and a Green Growth Toolbox workshop.
  - Hoke: had our first film screening, and we'll be at the Turkey Festival in September.
  - Lee: Parsons thanked Sara Harrington for assisting here with outreach presentations.
  - Montgomery: Parsons credited Kea Meacham for her work here. Jackie Hough commented that Montgomery and Seagrove have a lot of local-based businesses. She suggested we could integrate our work with those businesses – some dealing with local and nature-based products. Parsons noted Meacham is working with STARWorks (in Star) on an event.
  - Moore County: continues to be strong.
  - Richmond County: slow steady progress here. Partnerships with Richmond County government and Richmond Community College.
  - Scotland County: Kea M., Angela Dennis and Harold Haywood are working in this county. Our key partners here are the Chamber, and they are most interested in green business, local food and recycling.
- **Regional Meetings**
- **SS Programs**
  - **Green Growth Program** – a draft Green Growth Toolbox resolution was reviewed by the group. After several comments were made regarding changes to the document, Parsons asked Board members to email their suggestions to him for incorporation into the final resolution. **A motion was made by Jackie Hough to approve the Resolution to support the Green Growth Toolbox with the revisions discussed. The motion was seconded by Maureen Sutton and passed with a unanimous vote.**
  - Solid Waste Program
  - Local Food Program
  - **Green Living & Design Program** – upcoming GLD Tour at Bragg and BPI Analyst training.
  - **Green Business Program** – Patrick Coughlin commented on the Green Plus program that began in the Chapel Hill Chamber. Green Plus is more expensive, but a more comprehensive program than SS's GBP. Tavakoli suggested that SS consider a fee structure based on a percentage of the \$ savings. There was considerable discussion about this suggestion with no consensus.

There being no further discussion or business, Vice Chair Raczkowski adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.