



Board of Directors – 7.11.19

Mission: To advance sustainability in the built environment through community education, measurable standards and regional action.

(5:30) **WELCOME**

(5:35-5:45) **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Treasurers Report for June
- b. Green Built/LEED: In May there were 14 Green Built NC homes certified and 23 new registered; 0 certified LEED Homes and 33 total registered. For 2018 we had 160 Green Built certified 302 LEED projects (one was a 248 multifamily project). In 2017 we had 148 Green Built NC homes certified and 51 LEED projects. Therefore, both went up from the previous year. There is a total of 1679 GBH certified.
- c. Membership: As of today we have 295 current members. June was a record month for memberships
- d. Directory: We are approaching the content and ad deadlines. We have many great articles. Ad sales are lower than last year due to a few major advertisers dropping out or having a smaller ad.
- e. Annual Party September 5th at 5:30. We need Silent Auction donations
- f. Fundraising:
 - i. We have submitted a \$25,000 grant to Community Foundation of WNC to fund marketing efforts for Blue Horizons Project.
 - ii. Soon we will be submitting a 4 year \$375,000 LOI to the Nathan Cummings Foundation for ESN.
- g. Appalachian Offsets:
 - i. Lazoom will be offsetting their footprint with a \$1009 donation. Thanks to Heath and Robin for their support to make this happen!
 - ii. IDES PV- We are moving forward with a smaller system based on the nearly \$350,000 raised. Next step is to meet with the school board to discuss the revision.
- h. Commercial EE- We have started a commercial EE campaign via Blue Horizons Project in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, Duke Energy, Lime Energy, and LOS Waste Reduction Partners.
- i. Education:
 - i. Fall Workshop Schedule:

| Status | Date | Workshop | speaker | location |
|-----------|------------|---|------------------------------------|----------|
| confirmed | 8/21/2019 | Net-zero energy | Amy Musser and Emily Boyd | LRU |
| confirmed | 9/6/2019 | Buildings as Carbon and Storage | chris magwood | AB Tech |
| confirmed | 9/6/2019 | Design your own sustainable home | chris magwood | AB Tech |
| confirmed | 9/7-8/2019 | Hempcrete | Chris Magwood | AB Tech |
| pending | 10/16/2019 | IAQ and materials | Sean and Laura (Living Stone) | LRU |
| pending | 11/20/2019 | Biophilic design | Liz Calabrese | LRU |
| pending | 12/4/2019 | Making existing homes more EE | Jonathan or Sam | LRU |
| pending | 12/18/2019 | Sustainable sites | Jennifer Bauer, Brandon Greenstein | LRU |

- ii. Videos- We will be filming all of the fall workshops.

Robin makes motion to accept consent agenda, Heath seconds. Consent agenda approved.

(5:45-7) **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Meet Eric Howell from Green Opportunities

- a. Board members introduced themselves, and Eric introduced himself and spoke to his background and experience. A vote will be taken later to approve his addition to the board.
- b. Background from Eric: Been in Asheville 10 years looking for something new to do after being raised with a deep background of education with his family in homesteading and building. Was a student at GO, came on as a shop assistant and then moved up to assistant instructor, became lead instructor,



then became an adjunct instructor and then program manager over to construction dept. Helped build the reclaimed carpentry “business” for the program. Loves working with his hands and connect with a lot of the clients they have.

B. Discuss McGregor leaving next Spring and the opening Treasurer position

- a. Maggie does monthly reports and runs a P&L, Sam contributes financial information. McGregor uses a program to pull those numbers into a program that Mike Figura set up and reviews for red flags.
- b. Main job of this executive member is to set up the new budget with Sam each year before it goes to the Exec Committee and the board.
- c. We were approached fortuitously by a woman who just joined a local company as a financial advisor, and has interest in joining our board. She may be a candidate to replace McGregor.
- d. We could also consider moving someone into that position from within the board.
- e. Sam will be reaching out to this woman to invite her to attend a meeting and get to know us.
- f. Jessica says it would be good to have someone with financial experience, especially given the forthcoming building process we'll be pursuing.
- g. As a backup plan, Josh said he enjoys accounting, though that is not his professional background, and would consider taking on the treasurer position if we didn't have a better candidate.
- h. Robin also says she knows how to run books and has experience doing it. She would rather not do it, but could help in that capacity if push comes to shove.

C. Climate Bill of Rights

- a. Rob asks how many people have signed on so far. Heath says more than 200 cities have adopted it.
- b. Chrissy did some research on the organization behind it and communities who had adopted it. She found one community adopted this and is now going after a natural gas company using this Bill of Rights as a consideration. Chrissy says the way that this is written, it doesn't have teeth since it puts community rights over states' rights, which is not legal.
- c. Heath says this is something we need to do because we're in a mass extinction and we need to take any action possible to defend ourselves against corporate entities on the effects of climate change. Heath says even if it's symbolic, he supports it because we shouldn't live in a society where money trumps everything and always win.
- d. Robin brings up the “Overton window,” a range of ideas tolerated in public discourse. The idea is that people push ideas that are uncomfortable, and push the range of discourse to a new place. It is one of the main ways that new ideas (whether progressive or regressive) can get pushed into larger conversations. The concept is to adjust the window, by pushing something that is a somewhat fringe idea so that more moderate ideas seem relatively practical. She suggests we support this bill as a way of supporting the need for these conversations to take place, though she acknowledges it is not a perfect document. She said we should stand up for the need to have these serious conversations.
- e. Chrissy says she will go with the group to approve it if that is our decision, but she does feel like the bill is misleading and a wolf in sheep's clothing, and doubts whether it could effectively become law or be enforced as such. She said there are logistical elements of the bill's legality, efficacy and potential enforcement that she objects to, but she supports the importance of addressing climate issues.
- f. Josh thinks we need to consider whether signing it could put the organization in any jeopardy. Josh suggests that we release a statement as an organization that says we support the intention and share the values expressed here, but we have concerns about some of the legalities and logistics of the bill.
- g. Antonio says he thinks this is something to be considered at an individual level, but that he doesn't believe organizations should get involved in throwing weight behind it.
- h. Sam mentions that we should be aware of the risk of getting involved in this since it is in a gray area in terms of whether endorsing this classifies as engaging in politics and lobbying, which could violate our status as a 501c3.
- i. Chrissy asks for a show of hands in terms of who supports GBA signing on as an organization for Climate Bill of Rights. Heath supports. All others do not.
- j. Chrissy suggests our next steps are to issue a statement on our support of the spirit of the bill but not the legalities of it, and to watch for other appropriate opportunities to support climate action.

D. Citizen's Climate Lobby at Ciderfest



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| Leigha Dickens | | | | | | X | X | | | | | | |
| Ben Yoke | X | | | | | | X | | | | | | |