



CONNECTICUT GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

MINUTES:

Board of Directors Meeting

3 May 2004, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location:

Connecticut Innovations, Inc. (Connecticut Clean Energy Fund), Rocky Hill, CT

Attendees:

Bryan Garcia (BG), Vice-Chair
Robert Maddox (RM), President,
Steve Murphy (SM), Secretary

Paul Antinozzi (PA), Doug Disbrow (DD), Frank Gagliardo (FG), Debra Lombard (DL) by telephone, Kim Trella (KT), Mike Trolle (MT)

Absent:

John Amatruda (JA) Chair, Richard Barredo (RB), Bruce Bockstael (BB) Vice-President, Susan Brandes (SB), Ken Dreitlein (KD), Martin Mador (MM), Michael Smalec (MS)

Business Conducted:

1) Call to Order

BG called the meeting to order at 4:20 pm.

2) Meeting Minutes

Mr. Murphy noted that JA put the February and March 2004 Minutes on the Agenda, but the February Minutes were approved at the April meeting. Therefore, just the March Minutes needed approval today. DL commented that she never received the announcement of the Spring Event. For this reason, she was not able to make the color copies that she had promised to do at the March Board meeting. Also, she said she had contacted Bob Gonyeau at the Construction Institute many times, but she never received a callback from him. With these clarifications before the Board, PA made a motion to adopt the March Minutes. KT gave the motion a second. The Board members present voted to approve the March Minutes.

3) Committee Reports – Education

- i. KT reported that over 100 people attended the Spring Event at the Mark Twain Center in Hartford on April 19th. A photo essay on the event is posted on the CTGBC web site.
- ii. KT said the first Sustainable Building Industry Council's (SBIC) workshop on residential homes is scheduled to take place at the end of June. The CTGBC is affiliating with the SBIC on this program. RM noted that the workshop is for builders, not homeowners. DL said she would contact the

Reconstruction Center to see what they could do on this. RM said he would send an e-mail to people to let them know about this, but potential attendees should not register for the program through the CTGBC. MT said the organizers should talk to the various chapters of the Home Builders Association around the state. RM said that Steve Winter could get the word out through his contacts with such groups.

- iii. FG reported that there are fifteen registrants for the May 20th green tour of New York City. He expects another three registrations over the weekend. Since the bus holds 47 passengers, more people are needed. So far, \$900 in expenses (bus fare) are covered. Additional revenue is needed to cover the cost of the catered box lunch. DL said she would send an e-mail to people who might be interested. Also, she said she would contact the Green Home group in New York to promote the tour. FG said he had received feedback that the trip was a little expensive. DL said there was an article in the May-June issue of *Natural Home* magazine about the Solaire Building. She added that she would contact the Elm City Parks Conservancy about the tour as well.
- iv. KT reported that the R. D. Weiss Company said it would consider sponsoring a LEED Training session. RM commented that, if the Board wants to do another training session in the Fall, we should start planning for it now.
- v. Several members asked when the green State buildings would be ready. [Secretary's response: the dormitories at SCSU, ECSU and WCSU will be opened in August of this year; the Science Center at WCSU is scheduled to be completed around May or June of 2005.]
- vi. RM said that Tom Condon from *The Hartford Courant* called, looking for events to cover in his column. PA noted that, if the State buildings are not ready for this Fall, the big event for the CTGBC would be the LEED Training or the "green hotels" event. RM speculated about doing a members' dinner meeting. He said other groups do this regularly. PA said it takes organization to pull off such a meeting. RM said that Laurie Brown, the Executive Director of the League of Conservation Voters in Connecticut, said she was amazed at how much the CTGBC does as a volunteer organization with no paid staff. DL asked if we could hire a summer intern. RM said that the CTGBC would have to have someone for 10-15 hours per ?? in 2005. FG observed that the Landscape Architects work with Jeff Mills (who does a lot of organizations' newsletters). The Landscape Architects have asked Mr. Mills to be their Executive Director for approximately 15-20 hours per week. RM said we should do a job description. PA commented that we should look at what the Landscape Architects did, "maybe it's a fit for our needs." RM returned to the subject of dinner meetings. He suggested *Timothy's* restaurant in Hartford as a possible venue, and asked for other locations. DL said the format should be "pro" vs. "con" on various project designs and implementation. PA said the Middletown site (*It's Only Natural* restaurant) was a good location for another meeting. RM asked when the dinner meeting should be scheduled. KT said the summer months are a difficult time to schedule events. RM suggested doing such a meeting in September.
- vii. KT recently received a call from a woman in East Hampton. She and her husband are looking to develop a green mini-mall or small office complex. RM said it is part of the job of the CTGBC to "connect people." "We should list firms and services that are available." At the moment, however, "we can't really do this." "But it is something we should do." KT told the caller that the issue would be discussed by the Board. RM said he refers such inquiries to the USGBC web site. In addition, he said that Bill Reed has a consulting business called *Natural Logic* that focuses on such questions from the public. DD said that his firm, Fletcher-Thompson, does this advisory work, but primarily for academic situations. RM said it would be good to develop a list of resources on our web site. PA agreed, saying "this is what we should be doing." RM said that corporate sponsorships would entice firms to want to list their goods and services with us. RM asked if MS was doing some work on this. DD said a quick way to establish this would be to solicit from each CTGBC member a response as to whether their firm wanted to list their expertise on our web site. PA said he wanted to do a motion for FG to find out additional information about the plans of the Landscape Architects in this regard and to talk to their new

executive director. RM added that the job scope that was developed for that person should be obtained. KT asked if any Board member could prepare a list of “funders” for projects. RM suggested finding an architect with someone on board who is LEED-accredited to help the woman who called KT. He asked if these types of professionals are listed on the USGBC web site. KT said the names cannot be accessed there without a password. MT suggested that KT send the questioner to the NESEA web site and also to Connecticut Light and Power Company. BG brought the discussion back to the motion that was offered. The motion received a second. BG repeated the motion: that FG would investigate and report back on the approach of the Landscape Architects to hire someone. RM noted that there are lobbyists who do this type of work as well. The Board members present voted to approve the motion.

4) Committee Reports – Membership

PA said he had talked to MM about the List-Serve communication system. MM told him that only seven people have signed up so far. PA also said he needed access to the CTGBC database. Everyone agreed that an updated list of members is needed. BG said that RB has the list. KT suggested that RB send Board members a list of members and the Treasurer’s Report by e-mail prior to each monthly meeting.

5) Committee Reports – Strategic Planning

DD reported that he spoke to JA about some strategic initiatives, but more discussion is needed, particularly regarding the CTGBC’s “synergies” with our colleagues in New York and New Jersey. PA inquired if the local chapters of the USGBC in those states have seen any benefits from their affiliation status with the national organization. RM said the local groups do whatever USGBC tells them to do. Local chapters get no funding from the national group. The local chapters end up with a feeling that they should do things on their own. PA asked if the USGBC could provide the Executive Director services that we need. RM responded that one day we should affiliate. Right now, USGBC does not allow for individual memberships. This means that only RM, DD, and JA could participate in national activities representing our Board. DD commented that the national organization is consumed with rolling out new “products.”

6) Old Business

BG brought up the Connecticut Climate Change Initiative. He and JA are talking about a requirement for State and school projects to be “green.” The proposal has moved from a Steering Committee of the Climate Change group to the Governor. What role can the CTGBC play in developing such a policy? BG has looked at acquiring funds to push this agenda. RM observed that there is debate happening now at the State Capitol over a Global Climate Change bill. He added that Laurie Brown of the League of Conservation Voters would gladly ask legislators again about whether they would support green initiatives. This relates to the issue of whether or not the CTGBC can host a legislative reception.

7) New Business

Today, new business was brought up in the discussion of old business. RM added one item at this point. He said the green science building project at WCSU needs some publicity.

8) Adjourn

KT made a motion to adjourn the meeting. RM gave the motion a second. The Board members voted to approve the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen D. Murphy