

# imagine **Columbia's** future!

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Environment

## Meeting Minutes

*Wednesday, March 14, 2007 6-8pm  
West Junior High School Room 215, 401 Clinkscapes Rd*

Co-Facilitators: Tina Ehrhardt, Nick Peckham  
Support Staff: William D. Strawn

*Present:* Barb Allen, Amy Company, Chad Cordell, Frank Cunningham, Becky Erickson, Claire Garden, Scott Hamilton, Paul McConnell, Tom O'Conner, Stacy Turpin, Monta Welch, Jim Windsor

*Absent:* Dean Anderson, Randall Cole, Win Colwill, Kelly Garrett, Daria Kerrege, Sang Kim, Kathryn Lowe, Elizabeth Marble, Cherith Moore, Georgia Morehouse, Nadia Navarrete-Tindall, Jeff Owens, Scott Sowa, Catherine Wilson

*Next meeting:* April 18, 2007 6-8 pm West Junior High School Room 215, 401 Clinkscapes Rd

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### **I. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Citizen Topic Group, "Environment", Minutes from February 21, 2007 were reviewed and approved. Sub-topic group, "Energy Efficiency", minutes from March 7, 2007 were reviewed and approved.

### **II. Key Meeting Discussion Topics**

Nick and Tina handed out the Purpose, Agenda, & Instructions – Meeting # 3 sheet, Project Deliverables Summary, A. Themes and Draft Goals, B. Final Draft Goal Recording Sheet – To be submitted, C. Preliminary Strategy Participant Worksheet, D. Priority Strategies – Submit, E. Exploring the Vision Workshop and discussed each. Group broke into individual sub-topic groups to work on strategies and handouts. Tina discussed Sunshine Law and passed out handout and also spoke on the importance of prioritizing and narrowing 3 strategies per goal. Energy Efficiency sub-topic group had concerns on not listing all strategies on their goals. Jeff Williams came in to assist and listened to concerns and expressed the importance of prioritizing strategies and limiting three strategies per goal. Groups started prioritizing strategies. Nick and Tina stopped individual groups to encourage groups to complete D. Priority Strategy Sheet. Results of sub-topic group forms: **Energy Efficiency** – Form D. Priority Strategies submitted 1. Invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy to protect Columbia's economy from energy dollar outflow 2. Educate public in areas of energy conservation, renewable energy resources, climate change & economic implications of energy use. 3. Enact regulation to implement greater efficiency and better technologies. Form B. Final Draft Goal Recording Sheet. Final Draft Goal - Columbia will work toward achieving maximum energy efficiency

and transition to renewable energy sources. Sub-topic Themes – Themes were energy efficiency and use of renewable energy. We addressed this in our goal statement. **Quality** – Form D. Priority Strategies submitted 1. Develop an environmental protection plan that incorporates the components of EPA's "Protecting water resources with smart growth" document via education, incentives, and ordinances. 2. Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas using techniques promoted by the International City/County Management Association. Form B. Final Draft Goal Recording Sheet. Final Draft Goal - Columbia and its neighboring communities will be a place where the air, water, land, and natural aesthetic qualities of our environment shall be protected by a combination of conservation strategies including, but not limited to, regulations and ordinances, conservation incentives, education programs, and smart growth planning. Sub-topic Themes – Clean water – swimmable streams, storm water control. Clean air – reduce Co2 emissions. Protect aesthetics and environment – reduce light and noise pollution, encourage native plants & discourage invasive plants. **Resource Conservation** – Not yet completed. Tina collected forms and adjourned meeting.

### **III. Motions and Vote**

Jim made a motion to approve February 14, 2007 Citizen Topic Group Environment minutes, motioned was seconded all said aye to approve. Jim made a motion to approve the sub-topic Energy Group meeting minutes from March 7, 2007, motioned was seconded, all said aye to approve.

### **IV. Actions to be Taken.**

*Make sure form D and B are complete and handed in by March 23, 2007*