

## **HMSC Sustainability Committee**

### **9/7/06 Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

In attendance: Todd Bridgeman, Jim Colbert, Dawn Grafe, Ken Hall, Sharon Nieu Kirk, Jay Peterson, Tom Wainwright, Randy Walker

Meeting began with discussion of committee's purpose and members' interests. Ken mentioned that there is growing interest in sustainability in the local community -- several grass-roots initiatives have been launched to get local businesses and municipalities to learn about sustainability and incorporate it into planning and operations. "The Natural Step" is a framework developed in Sweden that is now being adopted in many other places; there are others. The local community often looks to HMSC for leadership in supporting or promoting these principles.

Expanding upon the originally stated rationale for the HMSC Sustainability Committee, "to provide internal forum for consideration of sustainability issues as they relate to HMSC operations and our various institutional missions, and indeed our own lives and local communities," the following mission statement was proposed:

"To promote, through implementation and demonstration, sustainable practices and technologies throughout HMSC and the community in order to effectively meet societies current needs while maintaining the Earth's natural resources, biodiversity, and habitability for current and future generations."

HMSC has taken some steps to improve efficiency of energy use, water use, and recycling – primarily in the OSU buildings on campus. Committee members expressed support for improving efficiency of resource uses in all buildings. Need to look at current practices in the agency buildings to identify opportunities for improvement and how they can be implemented, considering unique circumstances (e.g. certain federal buildings have private custodial services)

It was suggested that we create a list of sustainability improvements that have already been implemented at HMSC, along with other ideas and improvements that could be made in the future. This information could be posted on the HMSC website to demonstrate and gauge progress.

**Action item:** Randy will provide summaries of improvements made in HVAC energy efficiency, water use, and recycling in OSU buildings and a list of who is responsible for maintaining facilities and systems in each of the buildings on campus.

**Action item:** Ken and Sharon will ask for representatives from ODFW and EPA buildings to participate as members of the committee.

Committee members suggested it would be good to know more about what the OSU sustainability group on main campus has done, and also what Oregon Coast Aquarium "green team" is doing. It would also be helpful to have some tools/guidance for conducting internal audits of resource use and waste streams for committee members to discuss with their building managers.

**Action item:** Ken to invite Brandon Trelstad and Linda Hunn from OSU sustainability group and Charlie Plybon, who leads Aquarium to attend or make a presentation at a future committee meeting.

**Action item:** Dawn to get information from Gretchen Ammerman of Lincoln County Solid Waste District on conducting internal audits.

Ideas for other activities that the sustainability committee could lead:

- Invite speakers to give seminars or brown bag lunch presentations (suggested names: Robert vanCreveld, Terry \_\_\_\_\_ -- Laurie Weitkamp's husband)

- Demonstration projects on renewable energy sources (wind, solar, wave, alternative fuels), recycling seawater, and other ideas
- Web page for information sharing on various topics where people at HMSC have experience / expertise to share (e.g. carpooling, biodiesel engines, composting, rainwater collection, etc.)
- Work with City or County agency to develop alternative transportation ideas
- Creation of a display for the Visitor Center on sustainability principles and practices, including things people can do at home

**Next meeting** scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> at 11am in the Barry Fisher Room (Guin Library).