



VISIONEERING
WICHITA

**Visioneering Wichita
Environmental Sustainability Alliance
May 6, 2010
Meeting Notes**

Attendees: Angie Allen, Charlie Applegate, Ernest Campos, Melisa Carpenter, Barry Carroll, Kathy Dittmer, Sharon Fearey, Corie Holbrook, Caroline Hosford, Yegana Jafarova, Kay Johnson, Chris Kliewer, Scott Knebel, Becky Lewis, Andy Matlock, Brian Meier, Janet Miller, Connie Pace-Adair, Art Pope, Pam Reiz, Elisabeth Skibba, Michelle Stroot, Patty Stuever, Anthony Swartzendruber, Candace Wilson, Tami Bradley, Suzie Ahlstrand, Diane Longfellow

April Meeting Notes

April 7th meeting notes were approved and will be posted on the website.

Update/Feedback for Leadership Team

The Leadership Team met on March 10th. They used the notes from the April 7th meeting to determine the agenda for today's meeting. Leadership team meeting notes are at the following link:

<http://www.visioneeringwichita.com/minutes/environmental/Leadership%20team%20Notes%20042210.pdf>

Defining the Alliance

Draft Vision:

A viable natural environment

Draft Mission:

To promote the sustainability of the Wichita region by facilitating collaboration and integrated solutions among individuals and organizations, and serving as a resource, catalyst and advocate for environmental, economic and social sustainability

Geographic Area

The alliance needs to define the geographic area of the alliance. Kay Johnson provided information on the air quality region which is our MSA, Sedgwick, Butler, Harvey and Sumner counties. Becky Lewis provided information on the watershed area. It covers a larger area than the air quality region. Both air quality and water are areas of focus for the alliance. A decision was not made concerning the alliance's geographic area.

Models of Sustainability

Areas the alliance will focus on:

- Environmental – Economic
 - Goal: sustainable economic development
 - energy efficiency, subsidies/incentives for use of natural resources, sustainability

- Environmental
 - Goal: sustainable natural and built environment
 - Natural resource use, environmental management, pollution prevention (i.e. water, land, waste)
- Social – Environmental
 - Goal: equitable social environment
 - Business ethics, fair trade, worker’s rights

Kay Johnson provided a combined model of sustainability which included the Three Spheres of Sustainability and Path to Sustainable Development from our last alliance meeting.

<http://www.visioneringwichita.com/minutes/environmental/Combined%20spheres%20050610.pdf>

Break Outs/Focus Areas

Participants self selected into one of the above listed focus areas. There was a facilitated discussion of the following questions:

- What **impact do you/your business or organization have** on (individual bullet points)?
- What **impact do you want to have?** Why?
- What impact can an alliance/coalition like this have – where is our **leverage?**
- Given these leverage points, what are our **priorities** in this area?
- How will we know we’ve been **successful?** In 6 months, In one year?
- **Who else** needs to be here for us to accomplish these kinds or priorities?
- What are our **next steps?**

Environmental Group Notes:

- What impact do you/your business or organization have?
 - Reduce toxin in the environment suing bikes for transportation
 - High school impacts & input – recycling – Recycle for Youth Sports
 - Sedgwick County collects waste volume numbers for measurement
 - Idle Reduction Resolution – expects municipal government 2011
 - Derby recycling
 - Environment education
 - Recycling at the airport – 19 aviation partners
 - Green teams/schools
 - Tracking recycle waste
 - WRAPs/Riverfest
 - Energy efficient bike pathways
 - WIRE/environmental responsible produce – non toxic products
- Priority
 - Long term impact
 - Education
 - Want to impact individuals
 - Want to impact groups
 - Educating & turning things around
 - Popular to be green
 - Would like to see “green” products be viable financially

- Want to convince people that “everyone” can do something – a lot of activity
- Borrowing the environment from kids
- When do we start – now...
- Promote stewardships
- Reduce jargon
- Create designs
- Code changes
- Bike racks at downtown businesses
- Advocate for bike lanes
- Education – adults – children
- Environmental tip
 - one tip a week
 - Collect business tips
 - Coordinate
- Eliminate Charity car washes through incentives
- Main stream
- ROK ICT
- Green themes
- Fun things
- Incentives?
- Use partnerships to accomplish goals

Environment-Economic

- What impact do you/your business or organization have?
 - Energy efficiency - lighting, HVAC
 - 60% of all energy is used in buildings
 - City of Wichita has no energy code
 - LEED buildings
 - Integration of requirements (i.e. air quality, water quality)
 - Make sure requirements are not in conflict with other sustainability principles
 - Educate on cost effectiveness and economic benefit of sustainability
 - Alternative transportation options
 - Young Professionals – connected to business
 - Air & water quality issues and its impact on business expansion
 - Energy conservation – bottom line savings
 - Sustainability – competitive advantage
 - Mass transit
 - Sustainable Urban development
- Priorities
 - Education
 - Provide solutions, don’t just tell about the problems
 - Economics of environmental development
 - Who: residential & commercial, home owners, builders, etc.
 - Best practices & performance measurement
 - Tools to share with other businesses
 - Green Biz Wichita

- Website resource
- Homes & residences
 - Top 5 – 10 energy saving tips
- Partnership with media to convey sustainability message
- Incentives to businesses/homeowners?

Social-Environmental

- What impact do you/your business or organization have?
 - Churches, earth groups
 - Community gardening
 - Grass roots initiatives
 - Improvement of living conditions & energy efficiency
 - WRAPS
 - AQ task force
 - Sedgwick County solid waste management task group – recycling
 - Public transportation (alternative)
- Priorities
 - Policy change
 - Transportation
 - Community gardens/farmers market
 - Recycling
 - Incentives for environmental efficiency (water and energy)
 - Non idling policies
 - Education/Raising awareness
 - Energy efficient practices
 - Idling
 - Landscaping
 - Use of fertilizers
 - Growing your own food
 - Buying local food
 - Alternative transportation
 - Water
- Where is our leverage?
 - Broad based advocacy
 - Political will
 - Enthusiasm & commitment
- Given these leverage points what are our priorities
 - Living conditions
 - Gardening (greening)
 - Air (transportation, reduced idling, lead abatement, energy efficiency)
 - Water quality (consumption?)
 - Waste disposal (hazmat, recycling)
- How will we know we are successful (benchmarks)
 - # of community gardens
 - # of rain gardens
 - # of certified background habitats
 - # of no idling zones/policies/partnerships
 - # of energy audits

- # of bikes carried on buses
- # of people riding buses

Meeting Schedule

Leadership team meeting: Thursday, May 13, 9:00 a.m., Wichita Metro Chamber

Alliance meeting: Thursday, June 10, 3:00 p.m., Wichita Metro Chamber