

SEOC Annual Business Meeting

May 10, 2008, Midwest City Library

10:00 - Call to Order by President Davis

Officers in Attendance: Bob Davis, Isaac Rutel, Bruce Vigon

Others Attending: Teresa Mohler, John Lauder milk, Kim Cooper-Hart (presenter and OSN officer, OKC City Planner), Mark Seibold (presenter, Choctaw City Planner)

Organization Overview

OSN started late 1990s – founded by a couple of architects; Tulsa and OKC were the initial chapter locations

Annual conferences now at 7th; provide a variety of interesting topics on sustainable living

SEOC focus is on local issues in this part of the county – e.g. replacing trees damaged by ice storm

Speaker: Mark Seibold –

Biography and Professional Perspective - From MWC originally; degree in architecture major; sees a serious limitations in the scope of professional architectural services; outcome is very poor results for the designed environment; mixed use communities have not been developed locally; MWC had a chance with the municipal core; did not really do a very good job;

Choctaw-specific Efforts – suggested getting familiar with your local city council representative personally; city has the largest land trust in OK County; decided to draw a growth boundary primarily around the central core; use it to guide development; first time within OK this has happened; the incentive is to allow pre-planning and pre-zoning to provide developers with time and money savings; developers (and interested public) need to see good development examples; looked at creating/reinforcing ordinances that influence growth – landscaping and parking; increase density of vegetation in parking areas and around structures.

Projects in work: YMCA express and a movie theater.

Speaker: Kim Cooper-Hart –

Cool Cities Program – coolcities.us or .org; Norman and Tulsa have signed the formal agreement; goals are achievable; provides a good framework for small cities; OKC has not really supported due to the nature of the city government, size of the area, and the views of the administration.

Energy Efficiency - eecbg: www.usmayors.org/climateprotection/

Climate issues at HUD have not been credible; urban planning departments had been paid by HUD; programs are very unwieldy and thus subject to being ignored and easily reduced in funding.

Core-to-Shore: Possibly largest current redevelopment project in US; still have some property parcels to acquire. Getting the mixed use development is constrained by the developers.

Neighborhood alliance fund to help with green neighborhood creation – e.g. Austin Green Neighborhoods. Street side and façade restoration funding – money is difficult to come by. Can leverage with bank funds, code enforcement stick??

Business Meeting –

Bob Davis: Introduction of SEOC officers

Isaac Rutel – OSN info meetings; monthly to quarterly; Current officers: Kim Cooper-Hart (Pres.), Chuck Gross (VP), Shawna Turner (Secy, Mike Bergee, Treas, elect 1/26

- New grant initiative – Buy Local foods
- Z-home (FCI) – use convict labor to construct homes to green standards; SEOC/OSN revenue stream possible
- Demand side mgt

OSN Conference – has rotated among chapters; may move to OSN run event with chapter participation. Have and will continue to bring in various regional and national speakers and topics across the sustainability spectrum.

Standing Committees Reports

Communications – quick summary of website, brochures, flyers, press releases, upcoming events.

Treasurer's Report – discussed relationship to OSN and issues relating to setting up accounts; described dues structure; decided not to collect dues until bank account is set up.

Ad Hoc Committees

- Local Foods – Bob Davis provided a synopsis of the recent Grow Green-Eat Local event. He also gave a short account of the proposal by Midwest City on the establishment of a community orchard and the status of working through the liability and other legal ramifications of SEOC undertaking such an effort.
- Recycle – Bruce Vigon described the mission of the committee and provided a short summary of the events undertaken to date. He also identified the

requirements from OKC and Midwest City on the adopt-a-street program as a future committee initiative.

- Alternative Energy – Isaac Rutel summarized the goals of the committee and mentioned several areas of potential activity, including wind energy, biodiesel, and providing web-based info on alternative energy systems.
- Land Use and Development – Lindsey Johnson could not attend, but a short statement was provided to describe what the committee is about.

Officer Elections

Call for nominations from floor – Bob Davis provided a statement describing the duties of the two offices that are open – Treasurer and President-Elect.

- Isaac nominated Teresa Mohler for the office of Treasurer; nomination was seconded by Bruce; motion carried 3-0.
- Bruce nominated Bob Davis to position of President-Elect; Bob declined nomination due to personal reasons; Bruce moved that the office be left open until (a) suitable candidate(s) could be identified; Isaac seconded; motion carried 3-0.
- It was decided subsequently that the vote of Pres. Davis should not have counted according to the by-laws.

Announcements

President Rutel announced a couple of upcoming events – specifically the pot luck, green drinks, and a trip to Spencer to see the sustainable homestead.

It was agreed that a board meeting would be held 5/17 at 9am at The Underground. All were welcome. Motion to adjourn was made by Isaac; seconded by Bruce; vote was 2-0.

12:10 p.m. – Meeting adjourned.