

## **SASD - Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development**

### **MINUTES of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors on Tuesday April 28, 2015**

6:00 PM at the home of Board Member Linda Reik in Shandeelee, NY

#### **ATTENDANCE**

**Board members in attendance:** Kathie Aberman, Michael Chojnicki, Isaac Green Diebboll, Bruce Ferguson, Linda Reik, Dick Riseling, Roy Tedoff, Jill Weiner.

**Board members absent with notice:** None.

**Board members absent without notice:** None.

Also present: SASD Co-Executive Directors Carol Roig and Stephen Stuart  
Board Member elect Mark Koeppen  
Apple Pond Farm intern Katrina Goli

A meeting notice was sent to all board members in accordance with the Bylaws.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM. The attendees constituted a quorum.

Board President Michael Chojnicki outlined the agenda for the meeting.

Minutes for the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting were approved. Moved by Isaac Green Diebboll, seconded by Bruce Ferguson. Unanimously adopted.

#### **Order of Business**

##### 1. Board member Mark Koeppen elected.

Isaac Green Diebboll moved, seconded by Bruce Ferguson. Approved unanimously.

##### 2. Board member reinstatement

Reinstatement of Michael Chojnicki, Bruce Ferguson, Roy Tedoff and Kathie Aberman.

Moved by Isaac Green Diebboll, seconded by Dick Riseling. Approved unanimously.

Discussion: Dick Riseling suggested that 4 additional board members be recruited, to fill out the skill sets needed and invigorate the board for upcoming projects.

- Executive officers are needed, including Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.
- Key areas of expertise discussed included fundraising financial development, social justice issues, and legal.

##### 3. Bylaws, Committees Restructuring and Updates (In Compliance with the Bylaws):

Laurie McFadden has agreed to provide consultation to SASD on an update of the bylaws to comply with new NYS regulations governing non-profit organizations, and has provide a letter of agreement to secure her services.

**Action:** Dick Riseling proposed that Michael Chojnicki and Carol Roig meet with Laurie to address the bylaws and other governance issues. Seconded by Bruce Ferguson. Approved unanimously,

##### 4. SASD Logo/Letterhead

Discussion: A number of Board members feel that the old logo should be retired. A generic letterhead will be used until the new logo can be developed. A number of suggestions have been circulated, and ideas collected for what image Board and staff feel the design work should convey about SASD. A small

committee, consisting of Michael, Stephen, Carol and Isaac will develop a design brief and start to reach out to graphic designers.

#### 5. Outreach to Montreign/Adelaar

The Board will develop a letter requesting a meeting with Charles Degliomini and his key engineering staff to discuss opportunities for energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy cost savings and sustainable practices at the new resort.

#### 6. NY Prize Microgrid Projects Liberty and Monticello

Carol and Stephen continue outreach meetings with stakeholders in Monticello and Liberty to secure letters of support. Booz Allen Hamilton will develop the applications to NYSERDA, and will provide an informational presentation to officials of the two villages. David Sager has requested that we present information to the Monticello Village Board on Tuesday, April 21. We are also reaching out to the Village of Liberty's new mayor through several channels. Scott Samuelson has signed the letter of support for Sullivan County.

#### 7. CCA

Bruce Ferguson and Dick Riseling have been researching how CCA's have been structured in other states and how projects are taking shape in Ulster and Westchester. Paul Fenn is not available, but Mike Gordon of Sustainable Westchester has offered his assistance to help us develop a CCA proposal for Sullivan County and to make a presentation to the legislature. Bruce and Dick Riseling have also consulted Jen Metzger in Ulster County for advice on how to proceed. July 1 is the deadline for proposals to the PSC for pilot CCA projects. We will need a legislative resolution in support of the project and making certain commitments on behalf of the County. If the anticipated cost savings cannot be achieved through the negotiations with an ESCO, the resolution becomes null and void and legislative support is withdrawn.

Next steps:

- Bruce will prepare a fact sheet with key information, including the opt out mechanism and resolution.
- Carol and Stephen will seek a meeting with Scott Samuelson to introduce the CCA concept and seek support for an informational presentation by Mike Gordon to the legislators, at the June Ag and Sustainability committee meeting.
- Dick will seek a meeting with Audrey Zibelman at PSC
- Dick will share Katrina's research with the full board.

#### 8. Outreach efforts – Co-Executive Directors' Report

Stephen and Carol gave a power point presentation at the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IDA on opportunities for energy cost savings for SC businesses. They asked the IDA to be pro-active in encouraging businesses to incorporate energy planning in their business plans, and provided model language that could be incorporated into the SBDC template for business plans; and to consider allocating some money from the Millennium Fund to help businesses pay for energy audits. Steve White contacted the Partnership to get the presentation on their agenda for June or July. Later this month, Carol and Stephen will give the presentation to a group of business people attending coursework through BOCES, a class led by Jill Weyer of SCDPEM.

Carol and Stephen did a site visit to the Hortonville Fire Department on March 19<sup>th</sup> to take a look at heating and cooling systems and offer some advice on possible energy savings.

Water Symposium: The education and outreach committee is considering several ideas for activities, including hikes or walks to be led by Lisa Lyons. Other suggested venues include hydro-powered saw mill in Equinunk and the Tomsco Falls area in Mountaintdale.

Next steps:

- Kathie Aberman will reach out to teachers at Liberty High School about possible participation by art and video classes.

Climate Smart Communities: Work continues with the Bethel and Lumberland committees. VHB Engineering will provide two roundtables for program participants, focusing on LED street lighting and solutions to GHG emissions from wastewater treatment and septic systems. The LED street lighting roundtable is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center in Bethel. Carmel Winwater, based in Poughkeepsie, is performing an analysis of streetlights in the Town of Bethel and will present their report and strategies for a municipal buyout of the utility owned streetlights.

Isaac reported that the Town of Delaware energy committee is taking a pause in their efforts.

#### 9. Housekeeping Items

- The Board will switch to a google group for internal communications. Isaac Green Diebboll will set this up and serve as administrator, with Stephen Stuart as co-administrator. We will retain the existing list serve as an archive.
- Board members are asked to keep to one topic in an e-mail thread, and to start a new thread for new topics.
- Some board members did not receive the new SASD newsletter, or received it in their junk files. Carol will work with Dorene Warner to troubleshoot these problems.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM. Motion by Jill Wiener, seconded by Dick Riseling. Unanimously agreed.

Next Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at Apple Pond Farm.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Roig, acting as Secretary for this meeting.