



**HAMILTON COUNTY  
LOCAL ALLIANCE FOR NATURE AND DEVELOPMENT (LAND)**

**Committee on Green Building  
Meeting Summary**

Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2006, 1:15-3:15 PM  
138 East Court Street, Rm 807 Cincinnati, OH 45202

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In attendance at the Meeting:

- Chad Edwards, KZF Design
- Joanne Gerson, Montgomery Planning Commission
- Holly Christmann, Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, USGBC
- Eric Russo, Hillside Trust
- Alan Weiner, C.O.R.R.E.
- Jayne Gall
- Phil Friedman, HCDBI
- K.D. Rex, HCRPC
- Dean Niemeyer, HCRPC

Joanne opened the meeting and welcomed the U.C. Students. Joanne requested that the students introduce themselves to the committee. The students then presented a Powerpoint presentation on the Green Building: Green Roof Primer (see attached handout). The student's presentation included case studies for specific cities—Tokyo, Japan, Chicago, Illinois and Seattle, Washington. The committee commended the students on their good work and assured them that it will live on at the LAND-HC WEB page. Joanne asked the committee if there were any changes or additions to the April Meeting Summary. Chad questioned the first sentence of the fourth paragraph. It was recommended that "it was" replace "Chad" in that sentence. With that change, the April Meeting Summary was approved by the committee.

Dean introduced Phil Friedman, Plan Examiner Supervisor of Hamilton County Building Inspection Department as a new member of the committee. Phil introduced himself as someone with a long-term interest in Green Building. In fact, as an architecture student 30 years earlier Phil had written his senior project on solar technology. Phil offered that he supported the idea that The Banks development should pursue LEED certification and that, in so doing, it could be a primary catalyst for expanding Green Building in the County.

Joanne then requested any reports on the individual task responsibilities for the Green Building Media Campaign. Alan Weiner stated he had nothing to report on Fernbank Park. Dean distributed reprints of the Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup> Enquirer article on the Pleasant Ridge Green school—"School designed to save energy". Dean also distributed reprints of the May 15 Cincinnati Business Courier's articles "City's green-building effort waiting to bloom" and "Group reimagines Banks' impact with green emphasis".

He said that the Cincinnati Business Courier article was generally good in explaining LEED and green building, but that there were inaccuracies about what LAND was doing. **Dean stated he would develop a letter in response offering corrections and thanking the paper for the article.** Dean also stated he and Chad had recently gotten an e-mail from Margo Pierce and she is developing a new article about Green Roofs. Dean referred her to Jennie Russell and also sent her some additional information on green roofs (i.e. links).

Holly informed the Committee that she had attended the City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Committee and motions on adopting LEED for new municipal buildings and renovation of old municipal buildings, and also, allowing tax exemptions on commercial properties that gain LEED certification were approved by the Committee, to be sent to whole City Council for final approval. Holly also said that she had heard back from the ODOD and that we would only receive \$3,000 for the Green Charette Grant.

Dean reported that he, Eric and Jayne had participated in the redlining/critique of the work to date of the students in the Niehoff Studio for affordable green housing in OTR, last Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>. Dean said that the quality of the student work varied but that there was some that was very good. He said one area within the project boundary area had a great deal of green space, which Eric identified as the area near Rothenberg School. Some of the students were proposing developing a Eco-Village in this area. The site already has a successful organic garden which sells its vegetables at Findley Market.

The students are proposing a traditional green house near this garden and new green co-housing for the site. Dean stated that the open house/reception/panel discussion for the Niehoff Studio will be from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> and will include Jim Schenk from Imago, Councilman Chris Bortz, discussing the proposed new policy to adopt LEED for public buildings in the City and Steve Evans of Green City Builders for the panel discussion.

The final agenda item was addressed after Dean distributed a compilation of all the Committee's e-mail responses to his and Joanne's proposed "Blue Sky/Upper Tier Project". Joanne stated that her proposal was motivated by her earlier participation in the Community Compass project and the great importance to get leadership on board for any change process. She said that the new Planning Partnership co-chairs Chris Bortz and Richard Finan are definitely high level leaders who could help influence other upper tier leaders.

Joanne recommended that at our next meeting in June we conduct a visioning/strategizing process to develop the best strategy for our Blue Sky/Upper Tier project. The committee agreed to this format and that the meeting take place at the Hillside Trust offices. The date for the meeting will be Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup>. Dean stated we will have to do some pre-planning for the meeting to clarify how the meeting will be conducted. He suggested that Ron Miller participate, and maybe, Jeff Aluotto also. After some more discussion, Joanne adjourned the meeting.