



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

**Committee on Green Building**

Thursday July 28, 2005, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

138 East Court Street, Rm 807 Cincinnati, OH 45202

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Attendance at the Meeting:

- Justyn Anderson, Americorps
- Virginia L. Russell, U.C. DAAP
- John Hester, Hamilton County Building Department
- Michelle Anderson, Cincinnati Park Board
- Joanne Gerson, City of Montgomery Planning Commission
- Eric Russo, Hillside Trust
- Ron Miller, Dean E. Niemeyer, HCRPC

Chair Joanne Gerson opened the meeting and welcomed all those participating in the meeting and on the committee. She asked everyone to introduce themselves and explain their interest and expertise concerning Green Building. Justyn stated she was recently worked for Imago through Americorps and she was interested in adapting older areas to being green. Ginny Russell said she was professor for the U.C. DAAP School of Architecture and Interior Design. She is a Landscape Architect and has a great interest in green roofs and is LEED AP.

Michelle Anderson said she was an architecture student of Ginny Russell and was working for the Cincinnati Park Board. She stated she's been tasked to develop the planning and funding for a Green Roof Symposium, by the Green Roofs for Healthy Cities. John Hester stated that he was with the Hamilton County Building Department and Dean had requested he be on the committee, he knows little about green building. Joanne Gerson stated that she is on the City of Montgomery Planning Commission and has a great interest in green roofs and has written a paper titled *GreenRoofs for Stormwater Control*.

Eric Russo stated he was Director of the Hillside Trust and distributed copies of a reprint of an article about how Wal-Mart has unveiled a new store in Dallas, Texas that "deploys solar, wind, sustainable design". Dean distributed a questionnaire on green building and requested that the participants complete it and get it back to him. Dean also stated that Holly Christmann, member of the U.S. Green Building Council, Cincinnati Area Chapter, had agreed to be on the committee but could not make it to the meeting. He also informed the committee that Gerry and Marvin Kraus and Christopher Manning, Human Nature Inc. had agreed to be members of the committee but could not attend this meeting.

Joanne asked the committee to review and discuss the revised Strategic Plan. Discussion began with the need to show the economic benefits of Green Building. Dean stated that he is developing a document that is a review of the current literature on the economic benefits of Greenspace – Natural Capital – Green Building. He needs to complete the section on Green Building. There was a concern that the committee might unknowingly repeat what other groups are already doing, such as the U.S. Green Building Cincinnati Chapter.

For Committee Performance Indicators, it was suggested that we list the number of green roofs developed. It was also suggested that we set a goal of developing a Green HomeArama by 2007. It was recommended that the County's HIP Program be utilized for

green retrofitting. Ginny Russell stated that a green urban redevelopment project be developed. She stated the Niehoff Studio had already designed this for a site in the Over-the-Rhine. Russell suggested that the smaller developers working in the OTR be invited onto this committee.

Ron Miller said that based on the discussion that the Strategic Plan should be revised to include the additional Committee Desired Results---1.) Inventory Green Building Initiatives and Networks; 2.) Significant demonstrations of Green Building projects; and 3.) Identify economic and other benefits (ie. health) of Green Building projects---ie. Green Building Best Practices. After further discussion and with the general understanding that the strategic plan could be amended in the future, the committee agreed to revise the strategic plan to include the additional Desired Results, along with their corresponding performance indicators.

Joanne Gerson also requested the members do some homework for the next meeting by drafting specific Action Plans. To that end, Ron proposed that action plans be developed as follows: Michelle to do the Green Building Inventory; Ginny the demonstration Green Building Project---urban green redevelopment; Eric the Green Building economic benefits; and Justyn for Permaculture on the Roof---Earth Pledge. The committee members not in attendance will be requested to develop action plans on their favored projects. The next meeting date and time was scheduled to be on Thursday August 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the Planning Commission Meeting Room of 807.

Ginny and Michele asked Miller if the Planning Commission would be a sponsor for the Green Roofs Symposium. Miller asked that they get a formal request to him so he could present it to the Planning Commission. After some further discussion, Joanne Gerson adjourned the meeting.