

**BLUER Committee Meeting**  
**July 6, 2007**  
**Minutes**

The meeting began at 1 pm with Dianne Herrin, Tim Lutz, Courtney Marm, and David Ward attending; Martin Indars was unable to attend.

We welcomed visitors: Jackson Denton, Scott Tornek

Minutes of June meeting were approved.

**Energy Star Initiative:**

- Dianne reported on the presentation that she, Courtney and Martin made to PZBID: It appeared to be quite successful. **Action:** Dianne will forward the PowerPoint to the committee. A vote is expected this coming Tuesday. (Update: The new ordinance, of which Energy Star is a part, was since moved forward by PZBID to full Council. A member of BLUER will attend the Council Work Session on Tues Jul 17.)
- We discussed how planned development, such as the McCool project, may be conducive to voluntary Energy Star compliance. (We appreciate Chuck Christy reaching out to the McCools on this issue!) Dianne told us that there are currently no Energy Star guidelines for residential-use buildings (such as apartments and condominiums) in the Commercial Energy Star program that will part of our new ordinance. We discussed at length ways to provide alternative guidance for developers until appropriate Energy Star guidelines for all appropriate building-use categories are available. **Action:** Dianne will draft language to address residential buildings in the new ordinance and forward to Carolyn Comitta. Dianne and Martin will continue working with EPA and follow-through with the McCools. (Update: We have learned that there is a new Energy Star program for “attached housing,” including condos and apartments, and we will work to include this in the ordinance and will offer this program to the McCools pending verification of appropriateness and training support from EPA.)
- We discussed the importance of “first-cost” neutrality or savings for developers and how these savings obviate the need to offer any additional incentives to developers. Dianne proposed that BLUER offer a special award for any project that achieves an Energy Star rating of 90 or above. This is the goal of the Amer. Inst. of Architects’ “2030 challenge” and is equivalent to a 50% reduction in energy use when compared with a similar existing building. Energy Star offers special tools for architects to achieve this target. Courtney suggested developing case studies to encourage developers, and we agreed to develop simple, one-page, bulleted case studies showing climate/building size specs relevant to our Borough building types, using the Energy Star examples on EPA’s web site. **Action:** David will build a template for the case studies.

### **Data Analysis:**

- Tim distributed initial summary charts for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy consumption based on electricity and natural gas consumption in the Borough and at WCU. **Action:** Tim will distribute these charts in PowerPoint.
- Tim reported that he began to enter data into the CACP software but that a power outage (a result of a energy conservation work at WCU!) crashed the software and rendered it unusable. **Action:** Tim will work with ICLEI to resolve the problem or re-install the software.
- Tim raised the issue of how to account for commuters to WCU who don't drive through the Borough, since our current traffic data accounts only for commuters who drive through the Borough. After discussion, no clear solution was reached, as this kind of study of complex and very difficult and labor-intensive to perform accurately. The committee agreed to acknowledge this in its final report.
- Dianne proposed, and the committee agreed, that we should include Henderson High School and Chester County Hospital in our inventory. (They are only partly in the Borough.) **Action:** Dianne and David will establish communication with these institutions' facilities directors and determine how to obtain the information we need for the inventory. Jackson will participate in these meetings and data-gathering efforts. We will maintain separate information for each so each institution can be addressed as a separate project.

### **Business Leader Awards Program:**

- Dianne circulated, and we discussed, a draft letter and survey for the Borough business owners. We agreed to ask BID to partner with us to boost visibility/credibility in the business community and help us attain the small amount of financial support we will need. **Action:** Dianne to follow-up with Malcolm.

### **Follow-Up on Last Month's Action Items:**

- Dianne noted that the draft letter to the faith communities was not yet complete. The Committee agreed this would be more timely if we waited until the fall, when congregants are back from vacation and attending church.
- Tim said he had not yet written the draft letter to WCU President Adler regarding the University and the College President's climate commitment. However, the University's Environmental Council is meeting with WCU facilities director Dee Giardina about the climate commitment in mid-July.

We decided to make resident education/communication a priority item on next month's agenda. **Action:** All committee members should begin thinking about how to approach this, and come to next month's meeting prepared to brainstorm.

**NEXT BLUER COMMITTEE MEETING: August 3, 1-3 pm**