

FOUNDATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

Post Office Box 2897 • Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27515-2897

Mayor and Town Council
Chapel Hill Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-5705

February 17, 2006

Dear Mayor and Town Council,

We write to brief you on the mission, composition, and the activities of the Community Leadership Council and to invite your continued participation in this broad based effort to promote dialogue between all sectors of our community and to advance the issues of community sustainability.

Background

The Community Leadership Council (CLC) was created in response to the 2004 Report of the Council on a Sustainable Community (www.sustainablecommunity.info). The Council on a Sustainable Community (CSC) met for 6 months under the chairmanship of Howard Lee and with the guidance of Kenan Professor Jim Johnson of UNC's Center for Sustainable Enterprise. The Town Council was represented by Mark Kleinschmidt in that process. The CSC's final consensus report recommended the creation of a leadership group to continue to advance the issues of community sustainability.

Objectives

The principle goal of the CLC is to promote dialogue between the business, civic, university, government and non-profit sectors of our community. The CLC is designed as a forum for these leaders to discuss the current and future issues, challenges and opportunities of the greater Chapel Hill-Carrboro area. The purpose of this dialogue is to build relationships, share information and develop shared reference points in an apolitical setting where members can speak openly and hear different perspectives on community issues.

The second goal of the CLC is to promote and advance the triple bottom line of community sustainability: environmental protection, social equity and economic prosperity. These three principles, developed in the Council on a Sustainable Community's 2004 Report, have been unanimously adopted by the CLC. These principles are the framework within which dialogue and shared knowledge between members takes place.

The third goal of the CLC is to plan an inter-city visit. We have selected Madison, Wisconsin for our intercity visit and leadership conference and are focused on September 24-26, 2006 as the dates for that trip. We are in early stages of planning the trip and are working on identifying topics for discussion and exploration. The CLC hopes to organize a diverse group of community members to participate in this trip and hope to have strong representation from the Town Council and your professional staff.

We would also welcome your input on areas you would like to learn more about in Madison. We are excited about what we hope to learn in Madison from their pedestrian focused downtown, new arts complex and community-wide sustainability initiatives to the university's satellite research campus, workforce housing efforts, town-gown relations and annual Halloween party, 80,000 strong.

Membership

The CLC is a group of 27 elected and appointed leaders from the business, civic, non-profit, university and government sectors of this community that met for the first time in April 2005. The original members of the CLC were chosen in an effort to convene the most senior level leadership from the University and local governments as well as from a diverse group of community organizations and businesses. (A list of the members is attached) As the leaders of these organizations change, so will the CLC's membership and we will be working as a group to develop a succession and selection process for the members of the CLC.

To expand the diversity of view points on the CLC, we recently invited Marc Marcoplos, business owner and local columnist and Mac Clarke, chair of OWASA, to join us.

Affiliation

The CLC is currently funded and staffed by the Chamber's Foundation for a Sustainable Community.

What You Can Expect From Us

The CLC is and will remain an apolitical forum designed to build relationships and improve community dialogue. We will not be taking positions on local issues, nor will we engage in any advocacy or lobbying work. All of our meetings will be open to the public including the press and we invite you to join us at anytime.

A Request

We would like to further expand our membership by asking the local governments to appoint both the Mayor and manager to serve on the CLC.

We would also like to request an opportunity to come before the Town Council at your earliest convenience to brief you on our activities and plans and to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully,



Robert Dowling

Interim Co-Chair, Community Leadership Council
Executive Director, Orange Community Housing and Land Trust



Scott Maitland

Interim Co-Chair, Community Leadership Council
Proprietor, Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery

CC: [Town/County Manager]
Bill Bunch, 2006 Chair, Foundation for a Sustainable Community
Members, Community Leadership Council

2005 COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Co-Chair Robert Dowling, Executive Director, Orange Community Housing and Land Trust

Co-Chair Scott Maitland, Proprietor, Top of the Hill Restaurant and Brewery

Susan Anderson, Chair, Inter-Faith Council

Delores Bailey, Executive Director, EmPOWERment, Inc.

Fred Black, Consultant and Community Volunteer

Moses Carey, Chair, Orange County Board of Commissioners

James Carnahan, Chair, The Village Project

Craig Chancellor, President, Triangle United Way

Mark Chilton, Mayor, Town of Carrboro

Mac Clarke, Chair, OWASA Board of Directors

Rick Edens, Co-Pastor, United Church of Chapel Hill

Mariana Fiorentino, President, Terra Nova Global Properties

Charlie Fisher, Chair, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce

Kevin Foy, Mayor, Town of Chapel Hill

Scott Gardner, Local Government and Business Relations Manager, Duke Power

Bob Greczyn, President and CEO, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

Jim Heavner, President, VilCom

Jonathan Howes, Special Assistant to the Chancellor, UNC Chapel Hill

Winkie LaForce, Chair, El Centro Latino

Howard Lee, Chair, North Carolina Board of Education

Mark Marcoplos, Builder and Local Environmentalist

James Moeser, Chancellor, UNC Chapel Hill

Aaron Nelson, Executive Director, Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce

Gary Park, President, UNC Hospitals

Bernadette Pelissier, Chair, Orange/Chatham Sierra Club

Roger Perry, President, East West Partners

Ruffin Slater, General Manager, Weaver Street Market

Steve Stewart, Manager, Town of Carrboro

Lisa Stuckey, Chair, Chapel Hill-Carrboro School Board

Judith Wegner, Chair, UNC Faculty Council

Jon Wilner, Executive Director, The ArtsCenter