

**GREEN BUILDING SUBCOMMITTEE
GWRC - GGC**

BACKGROUND

GWRC Mission: *To coordinate planning to ensure economic competitiveness, reduce redundancy in government, improve efficiency, enhance services and improve implementation time of regional projects.*

GWRC GGC Mission: *To foster cooperation among the five member localities in the Region in developing facility management and purchasing practices that will enhance the Region's environmental quality while resulting in long-term savings to the individual localities.*

Sustainable Development, Bruntland Report 1987: *Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*

Sustainable Construction, from Journal of Green Building, Vol 1, No. 2: *Those materials and methods used to construct and maintain a structure that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*

**GEORGE WASHINGTON REGIONAL COMMISSION
GREEN GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
GREEN BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE**

MEMBERS:

Daniel Dukes, GreenSource Raters & FABAs
George Solley, City of Fredericksburg & Marstel-Day Consulting
Richard Friesner, Board of Directors JRGBC & Professional Service Industries
Andrew Grigsby, Commonwealth Sustainability Works
Bill Tucker– Tucker Architects

MISSION: To coordinate low-impact development planning and sustainable construction verification in the George Washington Region in order to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs.

GOALS:

- ✓ Facilitate George Washington Region green building efforts in order to achieve planning consistencies, to reduce administrative redundancies, enhance verification services and improve project delivery timelines.
- ✓ Advocate the practice of green building in the George Washington Region in order to increase the practice of sustainable design and construction in regional governments and private practice.
- ✓ Coordinate training and education of planners, developers, officials, builders and trades operating in the George Washington Region.

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- Facilitate efforts of local builders association and green building advocacy groups to train and educate the building industry
- Coordinate International Code Council green building training for building officials
- ✓ Serve as regional clearinghouse for information from various green building rating systems' and ICC administrators. Distribute to regional governments and as appropriate for the George Washington Region community.
- ✓ Advocate all recognized green building rating systems equally.

AGENDA

- 1) Confirm sub-committee membership
- 2) Review, revise and confirm sub-committee mission
- 3) Review, revise and confirm sub-committee goals
- 4) Additional topics:
 - A. New ICC green building official certification:
<http://www.iccsafe.org/news/nr/2008/0305Green-EDC.html>. Consider advocating regional government code administration have at least one certified member?
 - B. Partnership possibilities between GWRC and Fredericksburg JRGBC Branch?
 - C. Advocate Universal Design integration with regional green building efforts?
 - D. Create regional recognition awards to foster growth in green professional development?
 - E. Advocate/Coordinate "non-green" regional building programs, i.e., LIHEAP & WxA?:
<http://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/HousingPreservationRehabilitation/WeatherizationAssistance.htm>

MINUTES (1/22/09 Meeting)

- 1) Subcommittee members confirmed as proposed. Richard Friesner suggested adding representative from Hurlong Associates, a local architect.
- 2) Mission confirmed as drafted.
- 3) Goals reviewed and revised as indicated marked up in these minutes.
- 4) Additional topics:
 - 1) Subcommittee discussed green building advocacy with respect of code and planning officials and private sector. Private sector advocacy is driven by existing groups such as Virginia Sustainable Building Network and James River Green Building Council, and also by existing green building rating systems such as LEED, EarthCraft House and NAHB NGP. Government role, specifically planning & development officials, will be affected by anticipated changes by the International Code. New green building code official certifications are designed to assist code officials respond to emerging building technologies driven by the rapid growth green building. Subcommittee members agreed that GWRC should advocate municipalities to have code officials certified under the new ICC program. Bill Drupal, regional ICC representative, will give a workshop in Fredericksburg on March 17th that provides more information.

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- 2) Branch formation process is currently under review by JRGBC Board of Directors. Discussion of partnership opportunities between GWRC and JRGBC Fredericksburg Branch is limited until the process has been approved.
- 3) Subcommittee members recognized the importance of Universal Design and the existing green building rating systems do not incorporate Universal Design principles. Members agreed GWRC should help raise awareness of Universal Design, perhaps through partnership with the Disability Resource Center in Fredericksburg and with programs such as EasyLiving Homes.
- 4) Subcommittee members discussed the possibility of GWRC creating an award or certificate recognizing local green building efforts. The feasibility and process of creating such an award needs to be reviewed with GWRC staff.
- 5) Weatherization of existing homes is a crucial effort to reduce community energy consumption and to improve the welfare of home occupants, both of which are green building goals. However, these programs are not well-known. The Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging is the designated coordinator of WAP and LIHEAP for the George Washington Area. Subcommittee members agreed that GWRC should partner with RAAA and assist in raising consumer awareness of these assistance programs.
- 6) No additional topics added to agenda. Minutes to be drafted by Dan Dukes and distributed to subcommittee members for review and comment.