Alternative Technology Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2010

This meeting was a teleconference. Those who participated were:

Terry Whitehill Ben Howell Ron Hayes Aron Faegre Kathy Bash

1. Application Status

There are no new applications to be reviewed at this time.

2. Raising the visibility of /served market for ATAC

There was general discussion of who would use the process offered by ATAC since all applications so far have been residential. It is not seen as likely that there will be commercial applications due to the liability implications for licensed design professionals for specifying products that are not yet fully code compliant.

There was also general discussion of kinds of technology or applications where ATAC might foster advances in sustainable technology or practices. Solar and rainwater harvesting are two examples. The City already has code guides for these.

Within the general discussion, Ron suggested that since the intention of ATAC is closely aligned with the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, perhaps we should learn more about their activities to see if there are ways ATAC could support them. To this end we decided on a brown bag lunch to which we would invite members of ATAC and BPS.

Ben will reserve a conference room on the 5th floor on October 15th noon to 1pm.

Ron will contact Mike O'Brien (recently retired) to get suggestions on specific individuals to invite.

Urgent action item:

Send names of people from BDS to invite to the lunch to Kathy. Include contact info if you have it.

OR

if you are personally extending the invitation, please let Kathy know who you have invited (so we won't duplicate. (I'll try to pass this list off to Donna if she has time when she gets back, but since this needs to happen immediately, I'll take the ball for now.)

Other ideas from the conversation:

Find an intern (local college) to interview applicants and write up the story of their experience. Publish in ??

See if anyone in State Economic Development group is working with businesses that have products intended for the sustainability market that are bumping into code issues. (e.g. they are used in Europe or Canada but are not UL listed.)

Host an annual award for an applicant with a success story.

Publish a short description of the purpose of ATAC in neighborhood newsletters (especially in areas where the Solarize projects have been successful).