

CITY OF MENASHA SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
Common Council Chambers
140 Main Street, Menasha
Thursday, November 19, 2015
Minutes

- A. The meeting was called to order by Linda Stoll at 1:04pm
- B. Present were Linda Stoll, Kathy Thunes, Roger Kanitz, Melissa Rollins-Jump
Excused Ed Kassel and Tami Lee

Those present wondered what happened to the people from the school system that were going to sit on the committee? All felt that there was a need to rebuild this board.

- C. There were no comments from the public.
- D. MINUTES TO APPROVE
 - 1. October 15, 2015: Roger moved and Kathy seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- E. Communications: Roger shared a notice from Evergreen Credit Union on the installation of solar panels on their office. He also had information from the Town of Menasha on their policies for Community Gardens. Comments was also made on a recent article in the Post Crescent featuring Paul Linsmeyer's effort to install gardens at Theda Clark Hospital grounds to provide food for their cafeteria. The hospital is also trying to do more local sourcing for the food they are offering.
- F. REPORTS: None
- G. ACTION ITEMS: None
- H. DISCUSSION
 - 1. City of Menasha Energy Usage - No report. We would like information from Don Merkes on any street light replacement issues – has anyone complained about the new lights?
 - 2. River-Gen Project - no report
 - 3. Waste Management – Everyone on the committee was pleased to see that recycling pickup was going to be increased in the city to every three weeks. It was noted that the city recycling site is not co-mingled like the street pickup. Also site conditions, especially in the winter, were poor. Can this site be updated to match street pickup and clean up a bit?
 - 4. Electronics Recycling – Fall 2015 wrap up: 7,200 lbs. Not the most we have collected but still a successful event. It was noted that the Town of Menasha collected 5,800lbs. The 2016 events will be held on April 30 and October 8. It was noted that we need to do more marketing on these events. Suggestions include: more and earlier notes on Facebook and the city and utility websites. We need to make sure that a notice goes out on the library listserv. We also might want to send a notice to radio stations WHBY and The Ave. Our best response comes from direct mailings to citizens. Can the 2016 dates go out in city publications? It would be great if we could send the one-page flyer out with a utility mailing. We will check on this. We should also advertise with the Clean Sweep event.

5. Livable Communities – Melissa, Linda and Don will attend the Weight of the Fox Cities Breakfast and report back at the December meeting. The board made note that there are other efforts going on to improve the livability of Fox Cities Communities and were interested in how/if Menasha was participating in them. In particular, the board would like information on ReThink! (Winnebago County) and **asked if the city nurse could come to a meeting** and update us on this effort. Kathy shared that the local information for the new Life Study has been sent to the consultant. The board would like to review this study when it is completed for additional ideas to move forward in the city. Theda Clark hospital is also working on their Community Health Assessment which could be a good source of information. The board agreed to continue efforts to implement suggestions from the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Committee Bike/Pedestrian Study.
6. Sustainable Community Network projects
 1. Sustainability Indicators- indicators have been selected and an intern has started collecting data. Unfortunately, the intern's time has ended and a new intern is needed to finish the project.
 2. Urban Forestry – Roger has tried to reach out to Vince to discuss tree plantings in Menasha but has been unable to get a response. The board would like to support tree planting in Menasha but cannot do that until we talk to Vince. Roger said that he will keep trying. The board wanted to know the status of the grant to get trees for the city entrance streets. Where do we stand on updating the city ordinance so this project can be moved forward?
7. Menasha Farm Fresh Market – no report. Board commented that this event continues to be a big success for the city. We would like to continue to use it for education on sustainability issues.
- I. ADJOURNMENT
Motion made by Kathy Thunes and seconded by Melissa Rollins-Jump to adjourn at 2:45pm.
Motion carried.
Next meeting will be December 17, 2015

Minutes submitted by LSS