

CITY OF MENASHA
SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
March 23, 2023
Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Called to order at 4:03 PM by Austin Hammond

B. ROLL CALL

Attending: Kyle Coenen, Austin Hammond, Roger Kanitz, Kelsey Parry, Linda Stoll, Kathy Thunes

Also Attending: Mayor Donald Merkes

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Dan Evans 859 Lotus Trail

No mow May, impacts on neighborhood aesthetics, questions regarding significant positive impact on pollinators. Neighborhoods may have covenants regarding keeping of chickens.

D. MINUTES TO APPROVE

Motion by Kathy Thunes second by Linda Stoll to approve the minutes of 1-26-2003.

Motion Caries

E. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Planning & Communications

a. SCN and Website <http://scn-foxvalley.com>

SCN meeting was poorly attended, survey to gauge interest 8 replies 62% stated group was relevant 50/50 for attending. Recommended second meeting in June to survey dates and interest in future attendance.

b. Earth Day Celebration

Stormwater educational signage to be installed for Earth Day and a press release sent out.

c. Arbor Day Celebration

New arborist Dylan W. has started and will be leading Arbor Day activities April 28. Arbor Day ceremony will include the City's 40th Tree City award and planting of trees at Barker Farm Park.

2. Transportation

a. High Cliff Connection

City passed a resolution in favor of applying for a TAP grant which would fund design and location of trail from Loop the Lake to High Cliff State Park. TAP grant request submitted to DOT.

b. Bike Parking Survey

Was recommended as part of our Bike Friendly Community designation. Students are interested need to complete mapping to get to students.

3. Land Use

a. Urban Chickens

Ordinance passed on the February 20th, 2023 Common Council meeting. Rules and Fee schedule passed at the March 20th Common Council meeting. Ordinance effective date April 1st, 2023. It was noted that there are neighborhoods within the City that may have private covenants that would prohibit the keeping of chickens. Covenants are enforced by other property owners within that subdivision, the City does not enforce covenants.

4. Natural Resources

a. Natural Landscaping and Maintenance

Visual survey of the Banta Point site completed, plan to order plants from grant for planting in May-June.

Reviewed ECWRPC rain garden maintenance plan

May need fencing or other protective measures for native plants at City Center.

b. No Mow May

Discussion regarding previous data/statistics from Appleton No Mow May, 2022 Menasha proposal, aesthetic image, and other educational opportunities for pollinators other than No Mow May. Sustainability Committee could make a recommendation to Common Council at April meeting.

5. Energy

a. Comprehensive Energy Planning and Joint Energy Team

Cooperative Grant with City, MJSD, NM fire, and MU will be announced in March. If successful will help the parties develop measurable goals for energy use.

b. Ald. Hammond & Mayor Merkes attended APPA conference in Washington, goals by APPA & WPPI have goals to reduce carbon emissions.

6. Water

a. Stormwater Educational Signage

Plan for Earth Day 2023 installation.

7. Waste

a. 2023 Electronics Recycling Events May 6, 2023 & October 7, 2023. Will be emailing reminders to business partners.

b. 2022 solid waste and recycling tonnages are both down for the year even though the number of pick up points are up.

8. Health

No report

F. Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting April 27, 2023

Note this is Kathy Thunes last meeting, she has been on the Sustainability Committee/Board since 2010 inception. We thank her for her assistance in helping Menasha continue on a path of greater sustainability.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kyle Coenen second by Kelsey Parry to adjourn at 5:47 PM

Motion carries.