



MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019, 5:00 PM
CITY HALL, ROOM 604 - THE HARRY MAIER ROOM**

A. ROLL CALL.

I. Chair--Seth Hoffmeister; Vice Chair--Ned Dorff; Alder Randy Scannell; Essie Fels--Transit; Deb Hutchison; Chase Hyland; Julia Noordyk; Stephanie Ortiz; Mark Walter.

Essie Fels, Stephanie Ortiz, and Deb Hutchison are excused. Chase Hyland is absent.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

I. Approval of the Agenda for March 13, 2019.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Mark Walter to amend the agenda to move the presentation by the Brown County Conservation to the first item.

Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Julia Noordyk, Mark Walter, No- None, Abstain- None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of the minutes from the February 13, 2019.

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Julia Noordyk to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Julia Noordyk, Mark Walter, No- None, Abstain- None

D. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I. Discussion with possible action on a request from the Sustainability Commission, and assigned staff, to have the final authority to submit submit grant applications on behalf of the City.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Julia Noordyk to amend the item to say, "Discussion with possible action on a request from the Sustainability Commission, and assigned staff, to have the authority to pursue grants, with the city departments or outside organizations, which further the goals of the Commission."

Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Julia Noordyk, Mark Walter, No- None, Abstain- None

Motion to approve as amended by Ned Dorff, seconded by Julia Noordyk. Motion carried

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Julia Noordyk, Mark Walter, No- None, Abstain- None

E. INFORMATIONAL.

I. Presentation by the Brown County Conservation Alliance.

John Jacobs, 2373 Libal St GB 54301, from the Brown Counter Conservation Alliance.

2. Updates from commission members on goals and projects.

F. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to adjourn. Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Julia Noordyk, Mark Walter, No- None, Abstain- None

VERBATIM MINUTES

- Thank you and I apologize for being late.
- Owe us a nickel.
- Nice to see you.
- I'd be glad to give you a nickel.
- That's easy.
- At least we could keep ourselves entertained.
- Yeah.
- I'm ready so.
- All right, well, we will call this meeting to order. It's 5:22, we will start with roll call.
- Seth Hoffmeister, I am here.
- Ned Dorff.
- Here.
- Alder Randy Scannell.
- Present.
- Essie Fels is excused. Deb Hutchison is excused. Chase Hyland not present, not excused. Julia Noordyk.
- Sorry, yes.

- Present. Stephanie Ortiz is excused. And Mark Walter.
- I'm here.
- All right, we will move on.
- I tried to email Chase, and his email was.
- It bounced back?
- Yeah.
- Oh, okay, I'll find out.
- We'll move on to approval of the agenda.
- I'd like to make a change.
- There's a motion to change the agenda from Ned. Is there a second?
- Well, what's the change.
- For discussion, I'd like to have our guests moved up so then we can respect his time.
- All right, motion to move presentation from John to talk about BCCA moved up, is there a second?
- Second
- Second by Mark. All those in favor say aye.
- Opposed say nay.
- Okay, all done.
- All right, then we'll put that after item C.
- And, informational presentation. oh no, we have to, sorry, we have to do the a.
- Approval of the minutes.
- Minutes, yes, thank you. Okay.
- All right, so.
- Motion to approve the minutes.
- Motion to approve the minutes. It's first from Randy, is there a second?

- Second.

- Second from Julia. All those in favor say aye.

- Opposed? All right. The minutes are also approved as well. All right.

- A notation.

- So, John, why don't you take it away. Thanks for being here.

- [John] Yeah, you're welcome.

- Please give me your name and address. You can use your work address if you like.

- My name is John Jacobs, and my address is 2373 Libal L-I-B-A-L Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin, 54301.

- Okay, thank you.

- It's actually an alleyway, but we go by it. And I'm gonna give a brief but important summary of the Brown County Conservation Alliance. the Alliance was originally formed and supported by monies from trapping, hunting, and fishing license, it no longer is, and it uses some other fundraising methods, like a fundraising banquet or something like that to help keep funds coming in. But during the 50s and 60s they got some pretty, and 70s I suppose, pretty substantial amount of money from the fees that were charged for hunting, fishing, trapping. There is about 12 groups involved and I think we got time, I'll read them off real quickly. And what the conservation Alliance is is just that, it's an alliance of a number of environmental, but mostly hunting, fishing groups, that come together and discuss those kind of elements that pertain to hunting and fishing. A lot of them are political. but some were fundraising, and banquets, and programs, and projects, and research, and that kind of stuff too. But I'd say most of them are political. Although the group is not a political action group, they don't support any particular party or candidate, but they support those people and legislation that support wildlife, the environment, things like that. Some of the groups, Clean Water Action Council, De Pere Sportsman Club, Southern Brown Conservation Club, Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, Green Bay Trout Unlimited, Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society, Northeastern Wisconsin Beagle Club, Baird Creek Preservation Foundation. I got a couple more here. Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Green Bay Duck Hunters, Brown County Izaak Walton League, Great Lakes Sports Fishermen, and there might be one or two that haven't been active and haven't shown up or whatever, but groups that have over a hundred members pay \$10 annual fee. Groups that are smaller than a hundred pay 10 cents per member. And it meets the first Wednesday of each month at Barkhausen Wildlife Preserve, from seven to about seven to 9:00 p.m. And it also owns some property on the bay of Green Bay, where they have a duck hunting blind that's used pretty much by any public that gets there first for duck hunting during the season. The Brown County Conservation Alliance supports activities like Conservation Lobby Days in Madison, and in fact, this year it's co-sponsoring a bus to get people down there to Madison. It was supportive of a bill that just passed the Federal Congress, called the Land and Water Conservation Bill. It supports projects at Barkhausen Waterfowl Preserve and at other nature centers and nature sites in Brown County. When it comes to those smaller type events, they stick to the County, Brown County, but, as you know, there's all kinds of state legislation that affects Brown County as well as the whole state, and so they wanna

know about that, they wanna be involved in that, and even federal legislation that will eventually affect us here in Brown County. They help out with fundraising banquets, like recently the Green Bay Trout Unlimited banquet. They were vocally and somewhat active against the Back Forty Mine. Again, that's out of our area, but we feel it's gonna affect us. They help to pay for wildlife plantings, plant plantings, and fish releases. Last three years they've helped pay for owl banding and research at Barkhausen during October. They've also helped to fund a red-shouldered hawk telemetry project. They hold a fundraising banquet and awards banquet every two years. And part of this is they're working on a wild game cookbook. And then at each meeting they usually have a speaker on a related topic of wildlife in Brown Country, or something that'll affect Brown County.

- And that's good commerce.

- And that's, that's about it.

- Yeah, I talked to them many times.

- Does?

- Yes, please.

- Does the Conservation Alliance have a mission, a mission of some type, a formal mission, or is it?

- They do, and they have it somewhere and I couldn't come up with it for this meeting. And I tried to reach a couple of our longtime people, and I didn't get back from, I didn't hear back from them yet.

- Janet must know.

- Janet probably does. I think she's having knee surgery or something? 'Cause she was.

- Oh yeah, she's something.

- She was indisposed for a while and not her usual overactive self.

- Yeah, I saw her a couple of weeks ago when she was walking slowly with a crutch but she said she was having something, some surgery done on her knee.

- Yeah.

- Yeah.

- And I think she had that done, because she wasn't at the last meeting, and she usually doesn't miss the meeting.

- Do you guys still do a Road Kill Banquet?

- They haven't done that for a long time, but I'm not so sure somebody might not resurrect that in the future.

- I used to work with Jim Metlanin, who was part of Conservation Alliance and he always supplied a fair amount, and he used to talk about the Road Kill Banquet, which is basically wild game, in a variety of forms. So it's a fundraiser for them.

- Yeah, the only.

- Can you eat skunk?

- You can eat.

- You can.

- Some people do.

- Do you want to?

- That's another hole in the.

- I as far as I know St. Matt's Parish in Alloway has a wild game feed, and I think that's the only one left. Now some other of these organizations will have a, not a shrimp fry, but a smelt fry.

- Yeah, southern grits.

- Or some other, you know, but I think the wild game feed has pretty well gone away except for that one, and they usually have it in March, too, I think. They have Biebel's do the cooking for them. It's popular. They run the people in, feed them and kick them out and get the next group in, you know.

- So that little piece of land that's at the end of Bay Shore Road, off of, I know where Bay Shore Road. That's what they own physically.

- Just a little pieces. There was a big discussion at the last meeting whether it's 40 acres or four acres. And somebody commented, well depends on what the water level is. But it's only a couple acres, and it's just off to the side. It's not connected at all with the major causeway going out to the islands.

- You know, I'm okay with outright measures,

- Okay, so you're, you know that, yep.

- And I know that DNR owns a small piece of land, near the Conservation Alliance, it's about four acres.

- Yeah, 40 acres.

- And then Brown County Park zones, all around it.

- Yeah, they own a lot of that too. That's kind of an extension of Barkausen, almost.

- And I heard that they were looking at the duck blind, to redesign it as a handicap duck blind?

- Yeah, it was supposed to be easily accessible but a lot of trees have fallen over the trail and they're talking about how can we clean that up and do that and get Barkhausen said they would help, but we'll see what happens, you know, 'cause those were kind of big cottonwoods there. Yeah, and willows, I guess. A lot of bluffs and stuff.

- Sir, you mentioned support for legislation. We, as a commission are in an advisory role to the City Council and can send ideas for projects ideas for possibly ordinances to the council. Are there things that you believe Brown County Conservation Alliance would like to see happening more on a local level?

- One of the last things we talked about on the local level was Eagle's Nest is now up for sale for a million and a half, or whatever. And there's a lot of interest to make that a public boat landing site. The people who live in that area have some other ideas, I don't know what those are, but they don't necessarily support that. So there might be a little bit of give and take there as to whether that actually becomes a boat launching site. But several people said, there's a need to have these boat launching sites every seven or eight miles, so that if rescue teams from the Coast Guard or somebody has to go out they have places that are closer to go out so they don't have to go out at the mouth of the Fox River to find somebody 15 miles up the shore or something. So there's some good reasons for doing that. But we'll have to see, whether the money's available and where they could get that, and do that and how much opposition there might be. But, yeah, a lot of these groups are bringing ideas and information in. Usually the way it works is, suppose Clean Water Action Council has an idea that they'd like either some help funding or some help promoting. They'll bring it to a meeting where it'll be discussed, then the rest of the groups take it back and talk to their groups. Then they come back with probably a yes or a no vote on whether we wanna fund that, or whether we wanna support that, or work on that project. A lot of the projects are pretty little and don't generate a lot of negative and positive. Most people agree, oh yeah, we should do this. It's usually when they get a little higher in the cost factor, since the Alliance is not bringing in a lot of money. But they're maintaining. They have a healthy treasury, and they're guarding it, but there's, they're pretty level. It's not like that coffers are going downhill fast. But they, compared to what they used to get in, these small fundraising efforts that might bring in two, three, \$400, \$500, and I don't know exactly what the amounts were, with the trapping and hunting license in the 50s, 60s, 70s, but they were, and they were only getting a small percentage of it, but it was a pretty nice cut, you know, to get that. And apparently all the counties in Wisconsin were getting a similar amount from whatever sales took place in their county. So, but that's not happening anymore, they all voted it DNR, which is fine. A lot of these members, one of our reoccurring discussions is the loss of DNR personnel. Major, it's at least 50%. The loss of monies for the DNR, the loss of objective commissioners at the very upper level that have been appointed by the governor, the loss of even respect for scientific research and discussion that was there for a while and now has been banned, you know, you can't talk about, can't talk about that, can't talk, we're just, we can't put it on our website. Global climate change or whatever, you know. As a group we're trying to keep those items in the discussion, before, you know, before it's too late. So any other questions? Thank you Ned, for kicking me up a little bit. I think I can get out there before my parking meter expires. I punched in about 45 cents, I was just telling this woman next to me that if you put like three quarters in, and then, oh, I got a dollar, I gotta get a quarter, and you run over and get another quarter change, and you come back to your meter, it's gonna reset. And so when you put that fourth quarter in, it doesn't go to a dollar, it goes back to start. So now you gotta put.

- That's interesting.
- Both those quarters. Well like tonight, I was, oh, I got five.
- Why don't they work better than that?
- Yeah, I got five.
- Sorry, it doesn't go to roads.
- I have five or six minutes on my meter, and I thought, well, I'm gonna start putting my money in. And I put a nickel in and it went to four, because it restarted. I lost that five minutes and it restarted.
- That's sort of bizarre.
- Use the app.
- It's ice cold outside.
- I'm semi.
- Never heard of that.
- Computer literate. Semi. I mean I can get by with some things but, boy, if it's new and different it might take me a long time.
- Is there a way that any of the projects that Brown County Conservation Alliance works on are broadcast, or are they promoted online?
- Brown County Conservation Alliance does not have a website or a.
- Facebook.
- Facebook, or any other social media, thank you. Or any other social media.
- No digital footprint.
- Partly because, except for the person, the new person, the new guy representing the same group that Seth is with.
- Oh, okay.
- Wisconsin, oh.
- All the rest of the guys are my, or gals and guys, are my age or older. And for some reason we just don't use computers because we never knew about them until a few years ago. And when you're older than the trees in Wisconsin. That's a bad statement on the logging practices.

- Yeah, I'll tell ya. My dad's 88 and he owns three computers and cell phones.
- There's exceptions to every rule.
- Yeah, my mom too, actually.
- There's people out there, yeah. He probably has those computers developed, got new ones each time, didn't he? He was always a computer.
- Well yeah, he had bought my first home computer was in 1976. That was actually.
- You had two?
- That was before Apple.
- Yeah I was gonna say, that's before an Apple II.
- I just recall it was 99/4a.
- Yeah, a little cassette.
- Before Atari, that's before.
- Did you have have a little cassette that you put in?
- Took up half of the action and you had to plug the cassette tape player into it, you had to plug your TV into it to see things.
- Oh, okay. And it was all DOS, or whatever.
- It was all basic, mostly, yeah.
- Anyway.
- Thank you John.
- That's it for John today.
- Thank you very much.
- We've long since gone by that.
- That's too bad, that's a museum piece.
- John are you coming down the line today? In a couple weeks?
- I don't think I will be. For me, I do a lot of field work, and I work on one of the projects that the Conservation Alliance is supporting. I work on red-shouldered hawks, they're a threatened species in

the state. And a couple are back already, but usually I'm heavy in either preparing or I'm already out in the field, gettin' my feet wet, gettin' ticks. Mosquitoes won't be.

- That's exhausting.

- Yes, it does. And mosquitoes won't be around for a couple months. But the deer ticks, I should just note this, but what Brown County Conservation Alliance should have done is ban all the deer ticks from coming in Brown County.

- We would support that.

- 'Cause I never got them at the reforestation camp, up until maybe 12, 15 years ago. But during the 70s, the 80s, the 90s, I didn't get any ticks at the reforestation camp. Now I just gotta go out there right after the skiing season and then I got five or six shots. I had three or four embedded in me this past year. My wife got a couple of these little tiny, they look like a tick crowbar.

- Tick crowbar

- They're green and they got a little fork like that, tiny, I mean not quite microscopic.

- Can you pry them out?

- And what you do is, you slip that under them, even though their head or their actual mouth parts are embedded, you slip that under them and you start turning, and you turn, and you turn, and spin them around, and for some reason they pull out. I don't know if you're unscrewing them or what, but it gets them out without leaving the head in, the mouth part elements. And I'm a believer. We got three or four of those things around the house now, because they're tiny.

- It sounds painful.

- No, but.

- The tick?

- Well I know they're tiny, but I mean you're poking that in you and you're turning.

- Well, you're just clipping it around their shoulders, their head parts.

- Right but that's still in your, that's still in your.

- The point is, but I will mention this. When the tick's in you, you don't feel anything, don't feel a thing. But then when you get that out, then it hurts for whatever reason I don't need.

- Well you just got done spinning.

- Yeah maybe that's it.

- All right, thank you so much.

- All right, thank you John.
- Sure, you're welcome.
- All right.
- Are you the president?
- No, I'm not. I'm the representative for Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society.
- Okay.
- And I'm one of the board members for Brown County Conservation Alliance. Janet.
- Smith.
- Smith is the president.
- Okay, I should know that.
- You should know that.
- It'll take me a second, I've got more to recycle guys. You're gonna get in this.
- Oh yeah.
- They're pretty good stuff.
- All right, I'll take one of those.
- So at at the Audubon, you gonna fix the roads?
- Not that kind of Audubon.
- We don't care about the roads, only the Germans do.
- Did we move all the informational up, or just that.
- Just that, yes.
- Okay, move to.
- Yeah, get some real work done.
- Yeah Thanks.
- Yep, you bet.

- Thanks so much.

- All right, moving on to item D then, regular business. Discussion with possible action on a request from us and assigned to staff, to have the final authority to submit grant applications on behalf of the city.

- So what is it? Sorry, can you.

- So, Seth, do you wanna, do you wanna explain what?

- This is something that I've had in mind kind of over the last year, when there was a grant that came out last April, Brown Public Service Commission pot of \$5 million, and it was for local governments to implement renewable energy basically, or energy conservation practices. And it, I brought it to the city, to the county, to school district. The county and school district both put in submissions for the grant. County was successful, the school district did not get it. But the city, I did meet with Park Department staff, and because of the tight timeline, they were hitting some, it was due, like it came out in April, it was due in June. Because of the timing of City Council meetings and trying to coordinate other staff in different departments, it just wasn't feasible for the city to complete the grant on time, get permission first of all from the council, and then complete the grant on time with that, with the council's permission. And so what I would like to see us doing as a commission, because I think it was expected of us to look for money for conservation projects, because it won't be coming out of the city budget. I would like to see us, as a commission, have some authority to write and submit grants that have to do with our mission. So that's why I am bringing this up now. Hopefully that grant comes out again next month and we can start working on it right away this time, get something in on time. And get some projects going over the next year for the city. So I think it's urgent, I think we need to start considering this now so that it can go to council, and we'd have some authority starting hopefully next month.

- Yeah I had a question related to like this whole thing about, so 'cause working with other municipalities, but here you do have to go through council even if a department wanted to submit a grant they have to get approved to even go through that. They can't just.

- Yeah.

- What they usually, what Improvement and Service and Parks usually does, they submit a lot of grants. Same thing with, so Economic Development, Community and Economic Development, they have several committees. So what they usually do is they say, hey, we are applying for this grant to do this particular work. So it does eventually filter to council that information. If that answers your question.

- So, timelines are challenging.

- But I don't know if they go from council.

- Even three months is challenging? That's a little worrying?

- They can go for council's information on that too. They can go through council's information, all of

council.

- Right, 'cause usually there isn't any action that the council or the committee takes, but rather, hey, we've applied for this grant. So Parks is, they apply for tons of grants. And they basically tell, but they tell the committee that they have applied for this grant or that they're about to apply for a grant so that they're informed. 'Cause the grant dictates activities.

- Not really permission.

- So, if we're a public works.

- And of course if there's any matching money, if there's any kind of money that the city would have to be obligated to spend, then, that's when council would have to approve it.

- That makes sense.

- Do grants have to be approved at least halfway through the budget process, ahead of time, if you know what your advance is gonna be.

- No

- And apply for something next year?

- I mean when you apply for a grant though, you have to put on there who is applying for it, like as the fiscal entity, like the H-I based entity. So who would be that in this case then?

- So usually.

- If it was the sting.

- It would be, so the city of Green Bay would have to be in that. All events I've seen, it's usually City Green Bay and then there's sometimes a name. A lot of times there's the name of someone in the department whose managing the group.

- For the grants where it requires the city to match, or the city to put in some work hours, or put in staff time, I guess.

- In kind.

- Thank you in kind. I believe that would still need to go to council for final approval. So in that case, I would like to see us be able to at least start the initial processes for some of those. Start writing them up, without waiting for council to say it's okay for us to start working on them.

- Why, what is preventing us from doing that though?

- We're advisory.

- That's a good question.

- Because if I was, again, working with the public works, I could just help them write the grant, but it would be coming from them.

- Right.

- Right, wouldn't that, but in any, I would, I can't imagine, what project would we go out forward where it would just be us starting it rather than working with some department within the city.

- We'd still work with the department. So, for example, that grant that we looked at for solar last year, it's still, the Park Department was behind it, they supported it, but it required, it had the line for what, what is the city going to kick into this. And it was gonna be staff time. So they still needed to wait for council approval, right? I don't know, so correct me if I'm wrong. I don't know if we can even start working on a grant like that technically.

- Sure, why not. It's sure better than anything.

- Sure, sure, we tried it.

- It would just be.

- It just may all be for naught if Council doesn't approve it, but sure we could start, there'd be no.

- And is there anything.

- And actually you don't have anything to give the council until you start writing stuff with people. That's why I'm just like.

- We'd be asking the parlance to be working with us

- Right.

- Before getting approval from Council.

- I think if we're going to it's going to be the committee that's actually doing. All we're doing is we're being axillary to the committee's to their departments. Everything's gonna be going through them. They'd be going to the council for permission to through their communities and council for permission. we're just running up the grants to give to the department basically.

- I don't know that we can necessarily always write them separately from like we name Department input, right.

- Right, you'll be working with them We're like an auxiliary of. We'd be talking to each parts. We might work on this grant. I'm sure they're gonna say great, we'll do that, And they will take care of all the comedian in council We're just, whatever work we do is going to be given to them. They'll be funneling it through. So we don't really, as a Sustainability Commission, we're not even asking for permission because we're not really doing anything in our home. We're just helping out a department, facilitating an apartment getting a grant that will then follow through the regular channels

of city governance.

- Say in your example, what authority, if what we've got prove whatever. This new Authority, how would that actually help the parks department in the three months anyway get through this process faster? What is missing to make that happen? You're gonna have to involve the parks in some way, anyway.

- Absolutely.

- So then, that's why I'm saying is there.

- So what happens is though if sustainability wants to pursue a grant, right, we'd have to basically report out, we'd like to pursue a grant. Then it would go to parks committee. Then it would go to the parks department to decide if they want to work on the grant. So, essentially, instead, we'd have to take this extra step by pointing out we want to pursue Acme grant, right, instead we would just say, well, we're gonna work with parks. Here's a grant that's come up. It would have to go to parks. If it's a parks type of endeavor, it would have to go to the water utility. which is a little different, because they're a little separate. But it would have to go to Transit Commission.

- They say differently.

- Right.

- It puts you on a month of waiting for approval to even start. That's what I'm asking for.

- Yeah.

- I think that's the opposite.

- Right.

- I'd rather you go on the side and work with them on the grant.

- Right, why do we need to go through council? We don't.

- Why do we have to go through the Commissioner?

- Right, we could just be, like I said, an auxiliary to a department. We can go. We're not gonna start right now some for parks if they're not interested. We're gonna go to parks to say we found this grant and will help you do it. I'm sure they'll say fine. Then we work with them. We go and everything. They would take it as far as whatever needs to go to committee and council.

- It wouldn't be an action of the Commission.

- It wouldn't be an action of the Commission.

- So we wouldn't be able to talk about anything like as an agenda.

- Sure, we can talk it as an agenda.
- What Commissioner Dorff is saying is that there a month.
- Yeah, I think anything that just streamlines the process would be good because of the same exact grant from the Public Service Commission.
- But if we're going through council before we go. We're not streamlining. We're adding on.
- I need a diagram
- What I'm saying is that we have to wait at least a month before we can even start a grant as things are.
- Why?
- Why?
- If we're working with the department, we have to let them know we want to start the grant. Okay, then they have to arrange that commission for that committee, and then that goes to council, then it comes back to us and it's started.
- So that, once again.
- And if I'm wrong, I'm wrong. But this is my understanding.
- Let me finish. If, if, it certainly is the case that you especially the chair, the vice-chair, the experts can say, all right, here's a grant, hey, can we pursue this? Then it's not an action of the Commission. Then it's staff member to staff member. What do you think about pursuing this?
- Great.
- But that's not an action of the Commission. Because the action of the Commission, we would need to say, hey, we would like to do this. Then it goes to council. Council sees, oh, we'd like to do this, we're going to refer it to parks. Then park staff takes a look at it.
- Adding. We're adding to it not extremely.
- If do the way, What I just described is what currently happens.
- Right. But I guess also the language of what you're saying here is that you'd like the authority to have this commission submit grant applications. We don't have the financial standing to apply for grants.
- On our own.
- As a Commission we can't apply for grants unless it's unless there's something out there that says specifically Sustainability Commission can do it. But I can't imagine that we have, would ever be given

that kind of authority. We'd have to have some fiscal.

- Right and actually that was not the word I was looking for actually.

- We have in in there twice.

- It's in there twice. What was the word I was looking for?

- Initiate.

- Or initiate, even better.

- But I don't think we need any permission to do that. If we see a grant out there that we can notify parks there's a grant out there, do you need our help to get it?

- Departments must have some autonomy.

- Of course they do. But I'm just saying that there is no our in that action, that there is no our. I'm the staff member there.

- Yeah.

- Be somewhat staff member. There is no our. There is no you're in that action. That's just a phone call. Hey, Parks Department, would you like to pursue this? Yeah this sounds like a great idea. That's not an action of the Commission.

- Right.

- Why do we need it to be an act of the Commission?

- We don't.

- Well I guess because then we'd talk about it as a commission.

- We could still talk about it.

- Then you could talk about it after the fact.

- So how would, If we make a phone call to the parks department

- Yes.

- To ask them to start a grant, then would our volunteer hours just kind of be off of our official record then? Or would we just work with them to say.

- I think what you could do, if you wanted to say, maybe to make a Solomonic choice here, maybe you could adopt a way of working with department staff to submit grant applications once the department staff says, yes, we'd like to pursue that, then the Sustainability Commission can use the

workgroups to help support those applications. That's a possibility. My concern is that if it's just a phone call, then what's the Commission doing? How does the public know what you're doing?

- And, yeah, that's good. I understand that because it's confusing to me. I'm just supposed to call or email a public works director to figure this out but that's like well my other position not as part of a commission. I just know how that works. If there is a formal process, then actually it could be to our benefit coming from the Commission rather than just me randomly. Email, also

- We could get it not on our record by making it an informational as a report. I talked to parks about this plant, and they're gonna pursue it, and it's on the record, then it's.

- But then you want to make. I think would be important to make sure that there's activity and decision-making around that on the Commission. Otherwise then it's just parts doing it.

- Well and maybe it should just be, I think if we find a grant, and we go to parks, then I see us as being supportive facilitators if they need our help, we help. If they don't need our help, why would we, why? Why would we take on the work? If they say, thanks, we've got some time. We can get this covered.

- Because we can be a conduit to make things happen where they might not otherwise happen.

- I think that the process what I maybe what we're gonna get stuck on, and this probably goes back to Annette's thinking about is, you're saying we, okay. So who's the we? If you come up with a grant that you think would be appropriate for parks department, do the research, whatever, approached parks to talk to them, that is you as an individual or as an alder, but that's not the Commission. At some point we have to discuss it, to agree that it's an actionable item.

- That could be on our agenda. If I find something, I could bring it to our for discussion.

- Yeah.

- And this commission could then say. When I say we I meant from the Commission. I didn't think for me.

- Right, but at one point one of us is gonna come up with an idea because Julia writes grants. I write grants. I'm assuming,

- He wants to write grants

- I want us to have the authority to initiate a grant.

- And we don't right now.

- I don't believe so.

- Correct.

- It reminds me to give ourselves a little bit of influence and lend our services in an official not off the

record way would be optimal.

- Pursue it is the best.

- Pursue or initiate.

- So do I have a motion to amend this then?

- Motion to amend, submit, submit.

- Yes. Oh my gosh. Wait who's making a motion?

- There's a motion from that to.

- Amended it.

- Amended to pursue.

- Wait, hold on. Anyone seconding it?

- If there's more love for initiating, I don't have a dog in this.

- Wait, wait.

- I second the pursuit.

- Can we say pursuit, pursuit?

- The item to say.

- Initiate and pursuit.

- Yeah, initiate and pursuit. There we go. Get 'em both.

- Initiate is the start of the process.

- Pursuing would involve some research, right? Meeting with staff possibly. So initiate and pursue.

- Hold on, hold on.

- We have to replace them with two other good words.

- And I'm in support of submit to it, but that doesn't sound like I could do that

- Initiate and pursue? What's our?

- Just pursue.

- Just pursue? Pursue is. Pursue. Applications or grants?
- Grants.
- Grant applications.
- Grants.
- Well, we don't have to pursue the application, right?
- Right.
- Yeah, yeah.
- Okay, so this is what it says.
- That's where that issue, you pursue a grant and initiate an application.
- Yes.
- But that's.
- Right.
- That's like IEGG. Discussion with possible action under request of the Sustainability Commission, assigned staff, to have the final authority to pursue grants on behalf of the city.
- I like that.
- Yes?
- So the motion was Ned, the second one was Julie.
- Hold on, hold on. I'm not that fast. Okay.
- Let me for discussion look, Will council, I would balk at the language there, and say well wait a minute. They can also submit those grants. And there's nothing in what we're saying right now that would stipulate that we can't also submit the grants. So should we take that on to the end?
- Sure, why not? Lay it on me.
- While respecting the authority of City Council for submissions, something along the lines of final approval with city.
- How about pursue grants on behalf of the city working with departments.
- So for the department has to submit an applicant, they have to get provable to even submit an application?

- No, they usually just informed the committee, usually.
- We don't want to add.
- It would be pending final approval from Council before submission because of work we can't say, yes, the city will kick in \$50,000 without--
- No, no, no, we're not.
- We don't have fiscal quoting cash needed to be submitted with ourselves.
- Right. So we're not submitting.
- So we're not submitting.
- I still think, yes, I agree. I don't know that the way it's written I think it might not be that clear to somebody sitting on council
- So how would you make it clearer?
- It has to recognize that that the grants can't be submitted until there's a full City Council approval. So, I guess ending it with, pending full City Council approval prior to submission.
- Isn't it that more at the discretion of whether the department's do it?
- Yeah, how about something about that, the authority to pursue grants with departments on behalf of the city. Trying to make it simple.
- Yeah, actually if you add with department, then that.
- By default automatically puts them into the approval process.
- Yep.
- So does that mean we would only ever be able to pursue grant when we work in conjunction with the department?
- Well how else could we do it anyway?
- You can do it on our own.
- Can you instead say subject to final approval by the city?
- I don't want to go there because then I think that ties us up more. I think that just adds another. The council members are gonna think that they're approving things along the path that we'd rather not. That they were approving. I mean it's just gonna bog it down. I think if you start using that kind of language, they're gonna say, hey, hey, we didn't approve this.

- Sure.
- Well, that's also, maybe we should take out the word final authority.
- Yeah.
- I'm gonna just say Authority.
- Yeah.
- I think you make a good point about, we'd always be working with a department regardless of what we.
- Yeah, so this department. Departments would take care of any kind of conduit of committee and council approval or informing.
- Is there a project that you could imagine that would just be like outside funding that would be a community maybe that no department would be involved in?
- Sure.
- Sure, well then that.
- I don't know. If it's happening in a park than it'd be perfect, right. If there's something community wise that's you know.
- It could be friends of the department. It could be.
- That's still through the park department.
- Well, no. But at the same time, if it's not something that's relevant for department do you have to get the approval? For pursuing a grant on behalf of Baird Creek Preservation Foundation.
- Right.
- Doesn't matter to the city?
- As long there's no moneys obligated or.
- Coming in.
- Right.
- So I think the word you come back around to is the city. Department to the park support, let's say and say okay you know there's an obligation to match and 10% on this grant there to be foundation is going to get most of it and do the work whatever else, then you'd have to go come back around.

- So we need to add some more words.
- No.
- Are you sure? We're gonna take out some words?
- No, I think, I'm watching, kinda looking at Celestine in there, and she'd kinda
- Could you please read what you have?
- Absolutely. To amend the item to say, discussion with possible action on request of the Sustainability Commission and its assigned staff to have the authority to pursue grants on behalf of the city.
- What happened to the departments?
- It was back and forth, so I took it out.
- I feel like I don't first, I think that's good, but I, and I don't I mean it implies to me when you say the city that some Department or somebody's gonna have to be involved at that point, right. I mean we can't, there's just not a situation where you're gonna get a grant going through the city without.
- How about we say this. In conjunction with this. Well.
- What do you think, Randy? What's gonna sound good at council? Because we know we don't want council members to be under the impression that we're going to be off leaving the city to pay for anything.
- Right.
- Pursuing.
- What if you said pursue grants to further the goals of the Commission?
- Yeah, there.
- Because then.
- Yeah, she takes that approval.
- And it tells us why we're pursuing the grant.
- Right.
- Do we want to add something like with departments or outside organizations?
- Yeah, I think that's fine. To further.

- Can you just say with the city, or. So it's not just departments, with the city or outside organizations or something?
- I think like I said earlier.
- Yeah, my departments.
- Departments, because the departments then have a process they have to go through. So that gives assurance, the City Council, right, that, yeah, okay it's going to the department. Also, outside organizations, can do whatever they want to.
- This is what I have, discussion of possible action, and by the way, so the agenda went out, right. So everyone sees the agenda. And then the report that gets reported at Council would be for the April 1st meeting, is basically what action came out of the, so people could see the original item, and then what they'll see is the item that has been amended to adopt, okay. Discussion with possible, because, Ned, the change, of course, is that there aren't long minutes. They're just legal minutes.
- Yep.
- Discussion with possible action on request of the Sustainability Commission and assigned staff to have the authority to pursue grants to further, which further the goals of the Commission.
- This one's work.
- Acting with.
- Can't we just say pursue with departments or outside organizations?
- Means that needs another.
- For pursue of that.
- Asset.
- Put right after pursue, put with departments or outside organizations.
- Yeah, it needs another verb.
- Hello.
- Hi.
- Hey.
- So right after pursue.
- So, hold on.

- Why pursue? why not per Jane?
- Sue, get that one counted?
- Your next council meeting is on April Fool's Day.
- Yeah. My first election.
- You in your element.
- Yeah.
- So this is what I have.
- My first election was on April Fool's Day.
- Really?
- Discussion with possible action on a request from the Sustainability Commission and assigned staff to have the authority to pursue grants with city departments or outside organization which further the goals of the Commission. Dependent clauses, but.
- Yeah that works. I think I sounds good.
- Yeah.
- Okay, so that is what I have. I have a motion by Ned and a second by Julia.
- Alright, so all those in favor say aye. Opposed? Alright, motion passes.
- Okay, now we're back to the other informational item which is an update from Commission members on both projects.
- There any updates? There a juicy one on the way in?
- I had a chat with them, Alderman Wherry, regarding our renewable energy goals, and he wanted some clarification as far as what would the city be liable for if we don't hit 100% renewables by 2050. My understanding that that's a target. It's not set in stone. So when I go pay somebody, anything. If we don't hit it. I think we will hit it so. But also too he had a question about where would the money come from. I hope I let him know it's my understanding that the budgets have been very tight for recent years That money to switch over to renewables. what we're looking at as a commission, first and foremost, we're looking for grants. But that any other funding mechanisms that would have to take place would probably not be out of the general budget. It would be more looking at larger scale bonds over. City, city go to referendum ever?
- Or term limits, we did.
- Yeah that's.

- That's true. So I guess you look at a referendum or write a bond, but right now we're looking at grants and we're not asking the City Council to find money in the budget that isn't there.

- Aren't you coming up with a strategy, too? Maybe a roadmap would kinda help.

- Yeah.

- This whole conversation, in general of everybody.

- Yeah, I got the impression that what we submitted to Council wasn't binding for the city in any way. Was he interpreting it as such?

- Yeah.

- This is in response to what you.

- What we, last moment.

- Yeah.

- So, yeah, I guess that was the question, Is it binding? I don't see as.

- No. No.

- That's a fair question. And where's the money come from, is a fair question. I think there's avenues that we could pursue, and that the City Council can pursue that don't necessarily touch the general operating budget.

- And if it does, it's up to the council to decide. I mean, I had the conversation with him. It's frustrating. That kinda pisses me off, actually. I said the exact same thing to him. He just totally ignored me. Blew me off, Jeus.

- I don't know about that, man.

- Well I do.

- Well, I think--

- Chris Wherry!

- What was a laid out in the work plan, I think, suggested that every project or policy goal that we would bring to council would have some more concrete cost analysis behind it. I think that he's getting a little far ahead of himself. It's good to know that's where he is at. Hopefully that means he will support any initiatives that we we bring to him, if we think about some of those concerns. Sit there on the horizon. Did anybody else have any other updates?

- Did you have anything from WPS?

- Yeah, no, totally. Ned got me in contact with Mike Moore from Wisconsin Public Service, and we got together and talked last Tuesday about just the renewable energy portfolio of Wisconsin Public Service. Right now they have about 10% of renewables. Penna talked about some of their long-term goals. There's some really promising developments with wind projects and then like a solar farm. Utility scale solar farm in northern Manitowoc County. They just merged with We Energies, too. So, from Southwest Wisconsin, which is technically. So they're just starting to get into utility scale renewables. We talked about some smaller things that they'll be willing to partner on in the future. It was a good introductory meeting, good to establish a good contact. And, yeah, they're just as curious to stay in contact as we formulate our goals. That's about it.

- Is it worth mentioning that, that I emailed you about. You had a good response to me.

- Oh, the Citizens Climate Lobby?

- Mentioned that they wanted to potentially in response.

- Yeah, um.

- So the Citizens Climate Lobby here hopefully wanted to potentially come present to us. I thought your response was very.

- Oh, okay. Yeah they're a really awesome group. I'd recommend checking them out. They have a pretty singular policy goal of the carbon fee dividend which is a federal thing. So I think what they wanted to ask us to do was to submit a resolution to Council which basically says the city endorses a piece of federal legislation. I know other cities have done and they worked on, but especially as we kinda get through our first year as a commission I think we could have more impact if we focused on local solutions and local specific policy recommendations. If we do want them to come and present as an informational thing, I'd be open to that. They do great work in the community. So definitely check out what they do.

- I have a couple of things. First of all we have transit and water on tap, let's see, for April and May potentially, and then the departments that are left are administration which includes like IT, clerk's office, media.

- Might say something.

- Water on tap.

- Good, water.

- So the presentations and departments.

- Oh, you mean it for this?

- Yes, yes.

- That's all my, what am I missing?

- Sorry, Julia.
- I'm sorry. When you say tab, I do not think.
- Because, of course.
- I'm thinking of some, Fermented.
- Maple.
- So, Water, Utilities, and Transit Commission. I'm sorry, Transit, who made Metro. I've asked them to come present here.
- Okay.
- So April and May. Then what's left? The departments that are left are Police, Fire, Administration, which is clerk, finance, purchasing, Purchasing might be interesting. Rick is a very knowledgeable person, too So that's administration, finance, purchasing, clerks, assessors, IT, which includes media, law department, mayor's office. I was going in order. HR, and that's it. We've gone about halfway through it.
- Cool.
- And, like I said water utilities, quasi-department. On the other thing too is that Mr. Wanderlei's District 11 made a communication asking about, to the Finance Committee, asking about the financial impacts of the work plan. So I went over the those financial impacts with the Director and Assistant Director of the Finance Department. They managed the Finance Committee. They presented, I presented, on yesterday, at the Finance Committee. Essentially everything on the work plan at this point is really just staff time, which at this point is mostly me. So very little impact to the budgets, since I don't get paid any extra for more hours. I just wanted to update you that that was a question from counsel, and we did. Now goes to counsel on the 19th, but the Commission received it in place on a file, which meant that they didn't.
- Alright.
- I was, I guess, I'm glad. My update is I was thinking of, I was trying to get in touch with Steve Griner and the public works because there's a Wisconsin DNR stormwater planning grant, but it's due in April. So based on just even our conversation and what we just talked about, clearly that wasn't even gonna. I didn't have to even authority. I guess I could approach it from a different angle.
- Yeah.
- But there's other. So that's not gonna happen for the green infrastructure code on it.
- Are you sure we haven't applied already?
- Well, when they came to present, he said they never go out for grants.

- Okay.
- My guess is no. That one would be a good follow up with planning to. First to, I should go talk to planning about that probably too.
- Yeah.
- So we're gonna, obviously, the DNR one is not.
- When in April is it due?
- The 15th. Tell me if that's worth pursuing or not.
- Depends on what's in the grant.
- What kind of financial--
- Yeah.
- There's no. I don't think there's any math required actually. The grant, it.
- How complicated is the application?
- I don't depend. It depends on a person who wants to do it. They have a person who's gonna write it.
- Right.
- I can help provide them a lot of the language The stormwater, it has to be from global works because there's a lot of stuff to fill in stormwater related. Like information.
- Okay, yeah. Because that's where the stormwater specialist is located, and engineer.
- They, so it totally depends on the staff capacity. You know what I mean. It's not a bad allocation that we have. I have a successful grant text on another one from city superior. So, person with the same project.
- Okay. You want to make an appointment with me?
- Sure.
- We can talk about it. Maybe I can get.
- Do you think it's worth. Oh, that, I guess, I thought, but okay, yeah.
- You can do.

- Is it worth pursuing? Farther conversation on it?
- I think it's worth another conversation. The timeline is tight, but.
- Okay. So I should go email you first?
- Yep. Let's just set something up so I can get people to come in and join us.
- It would be great for somebody from planning and then.
- Yeah. Let me see if I can make that.
- That's my, otherwise, if we miss that one we could write a pre-proposal to the fund of Lake Michigan which is a Foundation grant. I don't think they have matched much. Or it's gonna be in kind, then we can do stuff like that potentially. They've funded this project too in other cities.
- What kind of?
- They changed their process, but they have, they go, just write a pre-proposal. Then they'll divert, disperse. They'll make funding decisions four times a year.
- The funding?
- The cost?
- Yeah, we'd like the dollar balance.
- Oh, that could be anywhere from. It would be enough for this job. Why, are you thinking too small?
- No, no. I've no idea what it is. The code on it. It depends on the size of their municipality. This is because this is a city. It would be probably the biggest one I've been involved in. I would go to planning, consulting, and find out how much you should apply for to get funding to pay for it basically. Because a small municipality, a tiny town would be 10 or under. But, yeah, I think superior was more than that.
- You ever worked with Northeast Wisconsin?
- Yeah.
- Yeah, I didn't know if that was a good resource there. Because there's a lot of consultants in that group, too.
- A lot.
- I guess there are. And maybe the city already has one. I'm not promoting any consultant. I would just be going to my source at.
- Right.

- How much would this cost? So, okay, this one would be potentially a good one, especially if they never applied for a grant.
- After, let's put our calendars together after this is over.
- This is kinda random. This year, it looks like the PC is never gonna end in ten years, this is like a huge deal. So this is like in the history of this river, it is a big deal that this is ending. It's really great to be here at a time like this
- I thought they're gonna end up next year.
- I don't know. It was today when I talked to somebody who was supposed to be this year.
- Is there something that the commission would like to do?
- I just thought I'd put on the radio the DNR is definitely gonna want to do Celebration. The Clean Baird Backers, the whole thing too. So I would just put it out there as I meet.
- I don't know. I just go back to, did we decide to give updates periodically?
- I don't know. They're outside the mouth of the river at this point.
- Yeah but their capping work, dredging. They're still dredging. Because they're gonna be doing the whole Eastern return base area and doing up East River this summer for a while, as well. I didn't know if that would literally mock up the waters. Because I know that they're putting up some kind of barrier in East River. And, they maybe doing more capping.
- Oh, because of the WPS say.
- Yeah there's a right thing, but they may know. We can get into contact with somebody. I don't know who you talk to off-hand.
- ARC coordinator.
- Okay.
- Because she wants to work with the. Anyway, hopefully. They've been saying two years in a row, they said it's next year.
- Yeah, yeah.
- It was supposed to be 2017 was the original. Anyway, a big deal. I'm just putting that just so we can start. Maybe our Commission wants to be definitely a partner.
- I think that a celebration might be a good idea.
- Hopefully, I didn't get you excited for next year.

- I know, right.
- For 2020.
- We can just get excited every year for when it.
- Wear a banner that says one more year. Hang it from the bridge.
- It's awesome.
- Last month we talked a little about energy numbers.
- Yes. Remind me, please.
- As far as how we can pull in data baseline usage data.
- Right.
- From the different areas in the city. Just as a reminder. I know you think about like how to pursue.
- Right, how to get that information. Isn't there a framework where, or do we have to be part of something in order to get a framework for us to better tabulate that baseline number.
- There's got to be examples.
- Right. That's what I'm asking.
- Is that what you're asking? What's the method?
- Right.
- Maybe you cleared it I don't know.
- Yeah, so one thing that we could do. I don't know if we'd be ready by the April meeting but maybe the main meeting. Renew Wisconsin is a statewide group. They're very policy focused and technical focused. They're working on a local government toolkit so a lot of different ways that local governments can look at renewable energy usage. I will actually see their.
- Wait, renewable energy usage or just just a baseline of what?
- Both.
- Okay.
- Looking at everything. Then figuring out how we can make that transition. so I think in their toolkit they're developing the first step is just figuring out what cities are doing.

- Okay.

- They're not done with it, but I'm gonna see the person who's reading that next week. I can get them onto you to potentially come to present to us.

- That would be great. I think that it would be great to get that baseline. How to do that? What that looks like. On the record.

- Yeah.

- It's funny because we were actually having a conversation today about energy. Energy usage, but of one particular type. I do think that department. Certainly departments have tabulations of what we're using. The question is. I don't know if it's just as simple as pulling up a bill and looking at it, or if there's something more to it? I'm putting this in my calendar.

- What about Green Tier? What is that?

- I sent it to Steve, to the Director of Department of Public Works. He wanted our law department to review it. So our law department is reviewing it, as well as the... ..the actual, so the resolution. She's looking at the resolution, as well as the project. That's what she is looking at. Let me just put this on my calendar.

- Is the law department going to come talk to us at some point?

- The law department could. I'm not sure what is renewable.

- If they are getting sent things from us in general.

- Absolutely.

- They have a say on how things are written.

- Absolutely.

- Or input in.

- They should. Obviously, I mentioned law department because the department, but they don't have any particular sustainability goals. But, if you'd like to hear about how they give input to departments, then I think that would be worthwhile.

- Because otherwise they could. I think involving them earlier than at the end.

- So can you send me something?

- On Renew?

- On baseline data, not renewable necessarily.

- Renew is the name of the organization.
- Oh, okay.
- I'll talked to Heather, it's your name, that's putting together the local.
- Maybe we could just do it all at the same time. She can make a presentation. And, I can start. I'm not sure how long it's going to take to get the information.
- Yeah, so I'm not sure if they're, this is a new kind of a new initiative for them. I'm not sure it'll be ready. They said April, or the first week of April, So it might be April or May. I'll follow up with you like next Thursday.
- Perfect. That's why I put in a camera, yeah.
- That would be perfect.
- Some point in the future or not. Not in May. I won't be here in May. I would like to zero waste and what that means. What we can do with that, so.
- You would like to make a presentation?
- I do feel. I probably do have a camera. Yes.
- Okay. So let's say June?
- Can I get back to you on that?
- You can since you're going to be a European traveler.
- That's been occupying a lot of my mind. So many presentations, it's crazy.
- You mean going to Europe is occupying your mind?
- Yeah, and the dog presentations, yeah. The dog is the one that really killed me, yeah.
- So, zero waste.
- Zero waste, yes.
- Okay, so some time.
- June is probably likely.
- Yeah. Okay. I'm writing it down so I make sure I have that where we need it to be.
- Anybody wants to volunteer to work Tall Ships festival? Let me know.

- You sit around on the ships?
- No, no.
- It's pretty awesome. You get to be when, help them dock.
- Actually, we do get. We have sponsoring the causeway and the booth. We will have our access to all that area on Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Thursday night would be catching lines, which really means that their crew jumps off catch the lines and you stand there watching.
- Maybe, sounds fun. Do we need to receive and place on file any of our informational?
- You know this is interesting. We had a conversation today about informational items, and while that it's certainly the the habit to receive and place file informational items, that's all the time, it isn't necessary. If you'd like to receive and place on file, then you could certainly do.
- I want to see the place on file to see the place on file.
- Move to adjourn.
- Wait, wait. We jumped to.
- I don't know. Are we done?
- Yes, we're done.
- Motion to adjourn.
- Bye Ned, second.
- Second.
- Okay.
- Alright.
- All those in favor say aye. Opposed?