



MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021, 5:00 PM
Virtual Meeting. Public may join via Zoom.

A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.

I. This item contains documents which provide call in information and instructions for the Zoom meeting.

B. ROLL CALL.

I. Chair- Seth Hoffmeister; Vice Chair-Ned Dorff; Alder Randy Scannell; Prof. John Arendt; Stephanie Dodge; Kaurie Mihm-PRF; Julia Noordyk; Mark Walter. Excused: Cody Sandahl;

Present: Randy Scannell, Seth Hoffmeister, John Arendt, Mark Walter, Kaurie Mihm, Stephanie King, Ned Dorff, Excused: Cody Sandahl, Absent: Julia Noordyk

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

I. Approval of the Sustainability Commission meeting agenda for August 18, 2021.

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Professor John Arendt to Approval of the Agenda for August 18, 2021.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Stephanie King, No- None, Abstain- None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of minutes from June 16, 2021.

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Mark Walter to Approve minutes from June 16, 2021.
Motion Passed.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm,

Stephanie King, No- None, Abstain- None.

E. REGULAR BUSINESS.

1. Request from Alder Lefebvre----Discussion of the Sustainability Commission to establish a no-idling ordinance for drive-thru's and a public campaign. Cities and states with bans: New York City, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Vermont, Hawaii, Colorado, New York, Ohio, Utah, and part of California. Cleancities.energy.gov/idlebase.

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Mark Walter to refer to staff to consider including an idling policy in the City's climate action plan. Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Stephanie King, No- None, Abstain- None

F. INFORMATIONAL.

1. Resiliency Coordinator Updates: pesticide use policy, Grant opportunities, climate action items

2. Committee Updates: Clean Energy workgroup

The Sustainability Commission will give a presentation on the progress of climate action items in the near future. Mark gave an update on the possibility for food waste pick-up for compost in the Green Bay area. Kaurie Mihm gave an update on the Nex Trex update. The city has collected over 500 lbs of plastic film and will receive a bench.

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Ned Dorff to open the floor for discussion for citizen participation. Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Stephanie King, No- None, Abstain- None

Moved by Ald. Randy Scannell, seconded by Ned Dorff to close the floor for discussion. Motion carried.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Stephanie King, No- None, Abstain- None

Committee updates resumed: Kaurie Mihm gave an update on the Nex Trex update. The city has collected over 500 lbs of plastic film and will receive a bench.

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Ald. Randy Scannell to Adjourn.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Randy Scannell, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Cody Sandahl, Stephanie King, No- None, Abstain- None.

VERBATIM MINUTES

- Alright, now we're recording. Great, great. Great, well item A, Zoom information. It seems like everybody's figured that out. Item B, roll call.
- Oh, okay, sorry. Never mind, my bad. Go ahead. Pardon me?
- Sounds good. Roll call. Chair Seth, I am here, Vice Chair Ned,
- Present.
- And we've got all Alder Randy, here as your .
- I am here.
- Okay, good, double checking, John.
- Present.
- And it doesn't look like we have Stephanie, Kaurie.
- Present.
- All right and no Julia, Mark.
- Present.
- And Cody not here, but excused. Onto item C, approval of the agenda.
- So moved.
- There is a motion by Alder Randy. Is there a second?
- Second.
- I'll second.
- By, I think John got that one. All those in favor say aye.
- Aye.
- All those opposed say nay.
- Stop, can you just hang on one second. I'm just having an issue in the the roll call area here.
- No problem.

- I don't know why it's doing this. Staying present and voting and then, oh, Julia's not here. Okay. Okay.

- All right, great, thank you. So were we good on approval of the agenda too or do we need to repeat that?

- Who made the motions for the approval?

- Randy seconded by John, unanimously approved.

- Randy. I'm sorry, I'm just having some, Randy, it's just not-

- Sorry.

- No, it's not you.

- It probably is.

- It's not you it's me. And John seconded.

- Oh.

- Okay, we should be, I think all set to go to the next one here.

- Oh, that would be approval of the minutes from June 16th, 2021 with the motion by Alder Randy, do we got a second?

- I'll second.

- Second by Mark. All those in favor of-

- Can I just ask a clarification on that, on the minutes from last month or two months ago? We talked about the possibility of creating code for how we use chemicals on municipal property, how the city uses chemicals. So that was just informational at that point. I did ask in an email to Seth and Melissa about bringing it up as an action item for this month, but it sounds like Melissa has already started a conversation with, was it parks staff or was it DPW staff?

- parks.

- Could you, okay, parks staff, okay. Is that something that do you think that will come to us or is that strictly internal unless we create an action item for it?

- I would say it will probably be internal. And then when we, we meaning like the parks staff wants to take lead on drafting a policy, then it would go to Sustainability Commission for review. But it would need to go to a standing committee to have it be adopted as a policy.

- Okay, like protection policy.

- I would think parks probably.
- Probably parks.
- Okay, great, thank you.
- That was the direction that the gave me.
- All right, cool. Well then I'll probably ask about it again over the next month to see where things are at.
- Correct.
- I don't wanna lose that thread. I think it's important that we address that.
- Will you be doing test on the pesticide?
- Yeah, I will be. Thank you, that's all I had.
- So for the minutes, Randy, you initiated a motion.
- Yep, yep.
- Then Mark had that second. So we can go and do a vote. All those in favor, say aye.
- Aye.
- All those opposed, say nay. All right, we got that one passed unanimously as well. So we are coming on now to regular business. There was a communication put in from Alder Lefebvre who does not look like she is here right now. Continuing our discussion on idling ordinance for drive-throughs and public campaign. So Melissa, did you wanna speak to that in Alder Lefebvre's absence?
- Sure, she had sent a request that the Sustainability Commission discuss developing an ordinance, I believe, I don't have the printout in front of me. It was included in your minutes packet. Seth, do you have that minutes packet?
- He wants an ordinance.
- An ordinance. I can find some in front of me, but-
- Yeah, if I can, quoting here from our, actually it's on the agenda as well.
- Yeah.
- Oh, yeah.
- Texts or communication, yeah, Sustainability Commission to establish a no idling ordinance for drive-throughs. This would involve a public campaign and then cities that have bans, New York city,

Massachusetts, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Vermont, Hawaii, and part of California, Colorado, New York, Ohio, Utah, cleancities.energy.gov/idlebase. And I believe there was a link in the agenda also to, a database or a spreadsheet from cleancities.energy.gov that listed a lot of information on there.

- Right.

- My link didn't take me to much information.

- Pardon me.

- My link didn't take me too much information. I didn't see-

- The link cleancities.energy.gov actually has an Excel file there that lists state by state, the bands that are in place within the communities in the state, in each state most, just a quick perusal that, significant majority of those bands were not for drive-throughs per se. A lot of them aimed at diesel vehicles, so very specifically, I think there are two in Wisconsin that have bans on idling, but again, they're primarily dealing with large engine, diesel engine vehicles. There are few that did talk about just general cars. Let's see if I can, yeah, if you click on that link, it downloads an Excel file. And if you open the Excel file, it's tab to California right away, but California has State of California statewide commercial diesel powered vehicles, school buses, transit buses, people buses, buses mass transit, diesel fuel commercial vehicles, vehicles with gross vehicle weight greater than 14,000 pounds. And then Santa Barbara itself has a no idling for motor vehicles when the vehicle is parked, standing or stopped at any street, alley, right away parking lot or parking structure open to public use. So you're starting to get in. And that seemed to be pretty common for a lot of these. And again, it's public use. Regulating, I think we had a discussion about this last meeting.

- Right, well, so I just wanted to kind of give the staff thought on this as well. As far as enacting an ordinance to ban idling strictly in drive throughs is a extremely specific example of that. And it would be nearly impossible to enforce in drive-throughs as far as having an anti idling policy, even for city vehicles, that would be very difficult because a lot of the vehicles, like some of the fire department and public works vehicles need to idle to be able to operate, some of the auxiliary functions of those vehicles. Police idle their vehicles as well for a variety of reasons, for safety reasons. And then just the broader picture of how this might tie in with an overall climate action plan to have an idling policy or an idling ordinance in place. Again, very, very difficult to enforce, but I think what we need to look at is the bigger picture. And if we just zero in on this one specific action at this point, we might be doing more harm than good in the big picture of developing a climate action plan.

- Yeah, I wanna just echo and agree with what , I mean, I feel like we have this conversation in May and we talked about idling in the context of the bigger picture, it's certainly something that we'll need to and we can and should look at when we're making other recommendations for how to hit our carbon neutral and 100% clean energy goal. However, just as a one-off, I don't see it necessarily being effective, popular or enforceable. I'm picturing like a police officer idling by a Culver's drive-thru, making sure people turn their car off. I kid of course, but yeah, I think if we want to just refer this, make a motion to refer it to staff to just consider idling as a part of our greater climate action planning process, I think that would be appropriate and still do the due diligence to look into the issue as a Alder Lefebvre suggested.

- I'll make that motion.
- All right, there's a motion to .
- So how would you like that worded?
- Referral to staff to include idling in a comprehensive climate plan.
- I don't know if we put like idling policy or idling or just leave it idling?
- Thanks, Randy idling policy, I mean Alder Lefebvre called it idling ban, but I think that's a policy and if you look at the City of Madison has something and then they cover all motor vehicles, but then they have exemptions for a whole lot of reasons. And I think that's all part of it as well, but for the climate action plan, I think I would support that and I'd second it.
- Cool, we got a second. Is there further discussion before?
- Yeah, I think it's a good idea to refer to, I think to staff of different departments will have more of an expertise on when idling can really be cut down with their vehicles. So I think all of us would probably love to see a reduction in idling, but we're not the people with the expertise to make that call. But if we get good feedback from staff from each department, I think that would go a long way. That's just my 2 cents. I think it should be part of a larger climate policy and we should take a look at what Madison or other cities, moderate size cities have done for idling, because I bet we'll get some good ideas from them too.
- I do think just for the, considering all the other work that's happening on some of the climate stuff, this might not be the next step in our climate action planning, whether internal or external. I don't wanna speak for Melissa of course, but I think there's a lot of really good and important work happening across departments right now. So I guess in the meantime, I would like to just hand this to Melissa to kind of own until we're ready for that. I think that will be a few steps down the road. But Melissa correct me if you disagree.
- I do not disagree.
- Cool, so that's what I was hoping you'd say. All right, do we have a further discussion on the main motion then?
- I just wanna know who's making the motion on Ned's part, Ned or his feline?
- Shamus here is gonna substitute for me, yup.
- Cool, further discussion before going into a vote? Most excellent. All right, all those in favor of Randy's motion say aye.
- Aye.
- All those opposed say nay or meeaw.

- He doesn't like pollution either.

- Oh, that's good.

- Awesome, well, that passes, cool. Onto informational then Melissa, take it away.

- Okay, all right, a few updates. So I was gonna do a brief update on the pesticide use policy discussion. And the only thing I really have to add is, so parks has the policy Ned in ordinance that you put forward from Portland Maine. So they have that. And what I did to continue facilitating this is last week, I reached out to several different Wisconsin municipalities that have sustainability coordinators on staff that I've been networking with since I started and just threw the net out there and asked, who has policies? Does it encompass city owned, city grounds and facilities? 'Cause that's what we're looking at at this point. So I did that early part of last week and I did get some responses. I haven't compiled all of those responses, but what I'm going to do is put a summary together. I would say like maybe 25% of the cities I contacted had policies in place. And just put together their comments and give that to Dan. And Dan and Brian from parks and forestry are the ones that are gonna primarily be doing the initial work on it, but I'll be working alongside them as well to continue the work on this. At this point he couldn't give me a timeline of when they would have a draft. But he wants to make sure that whatever the policy ends up being, it's something that's realistic and they can implement it and it's, 'cause there are a lot of cases, there are several cases where the herbicides and pesticides are necessary to control invasives, whether that's invasive insects or plants. So they wanna make sure that those are protected. They are also looking at having within the policy setbacks from waterways. So we talked about that as well. It was a productive discussion. And I think that hopefully they'll have something at least in draft form. He wouldn't give me a timeline, but I think if I continue helping in the way that I am, we'll probably try to get something sooner rather than later. So that's the update for that.

- Thank you.

- I've been working, primarily this last month has been, I mean not a lot of different things, but we are writing a grant to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for green infrastructure in the Shipyard Development Project. So I've been working a lot on that with Matthew Cannon in the planning department and people within public works. So that is due this Friday. So there's still a lot of work to be done. But we're pretty excited about it. We've gotten a lot of great support from the community and letters of support from all the different organizations that I have networking with outside of Green Bay even in different regions of the Great Lakes. So hopefully, and it's specific for shoreline communities that are on waterways adjacent to the Great Lakes or right on the Great Lakes and the Fox River, there's the Fox River and there's several other rivers that are in areas of concern in the Great Lakes and those get priority over the other cities that may be applying for the competitive grants. So I'm hoping that we're in a good position.

- Melissa, do you know if Brown County has supplied a letter of support or not?

- No, I did not reach out to Brown County. I don't really have any, I mean, I hate to say that, I really don't, I mean, I reached out to Julia of course, she wrote a letter.

- Yeah, if you send me a template we could probably write a letter of support from the port, which is the governing body for the Fox River and a lot of the activity that go their as well as Troy. Troy's

very good about writing letters of support. We can just run it through Jeff Linton he'll, if you've got a template letter that we can use for-

- I do, yep. I'll email to you after the meeting 'cause we have to submit this on Friday, Mark.

- Yeah, but letter of support can always go in late, that's a given that they always show up a week or two after the actual deadline in a lot of cases.

- I don't know.

- So yeah.

- This EPA grant is like, nope, everything's gotta be it or-

- Yeah, no, we got to two of the GRI grants over the last few, well Cat Island, Renard Island, were both funded through GRI. So I'm pretty familiar with that program. But they'll accept letters of support.

- And the city, the last one I think they received was for the Bay Beach permeable parking lot a few years back. So this one is going to be for structural stormwater tree pits along the River Promenade that is following the shoreline of the shipyard development. So we'll get water quality and quantity benefits from that through biofilters within those engineered tree pits. So that's the one we're going for. So that's a big thing. And then lastly, what else did I have? Well, and then for climate action, one of the, and I don't wanna take everything away from Seth or John's Clean Energy Work Group update, but I did reach out to the focus on energy program a couple of weeks ago and gave them, I basically asked them for a report for all the city incentives and energy efficiency projects they've applied for for incentives since 2018. And the reason why that's important is we can use that information, A, I'd like to see how much the city departments are utilizing the focus on energy program 'cause there's a lot of incentive money to apply for, but B, in that report that I requested, it has all of the kilowatt hour savings, natural gas savings and we can use that in our measurements since the baseline of our emissions is based on 2018 utility data. That's where we need to start with measuring from there. So they gave me the report, I haven't looked through it yet. My initial, when I opened it up real quick, I thought, I know the city has done a lot more projects than this report is showing. So I think there's an education and just an awareness that I can hopefully have some influence as a result of that.

- Could I ask you, if there are some projects that you're aware of that like aren't being promoted, could we put some of those things up on our sustainability site webpage for the city?

- You mean as far as like, hey, the parks Department did this, this, this, and this, and they saved this much over the last three years, is that what you're thinking Ned?

- Yeah, I think so. I think that would be good to share with the public.

- So my broader vision of how we could lay this out is we can put it on the website, I don't have any problem with that, but what I think we should do when I started talking with Shelby about this is instead of having everything housed within just the sustainability portion of the website, which you have to like, you got to really dig to find where all this information is, is to have just a separate page

and have a link on the city's home page or how we wanna do it that will take, well, if a person's interested in the sustainability and resiliency efforts of the city, they can go to that site. It's not gonna take anything away from the Sustainability Commissions portion of the site, but I want all of the efforts to be, it's not just like one department working on something or just this commissions working on something, it's kind of a bigger message. So that's the vision. I mean, Shelby's great. We could probably put something like that together and just keep adding to it.

- Hey Melissa, I would just like to add, yeah, I think that's sort of, when you're looking at energy reduction, we've got to document this somehow if we're gonna eventually set some goals and try to achieve that, we want every department sort of looking in and saying, well, how am I gonna contribute to that? And this is just a good way to get it out there and make it understood that these departments are doing things. And it also encourages folks departments to keep though. Yeah, the more we can get that out in front of the public I think the better we are as a community.

- And then one other update that just cropped up in the last few days is we are gonna be partnering with NWTC again on another energy audit. They did a renewable energy evaluation late. I guess that was early the spring already of one of the parks buildings for solar. They did a solar evaluation. They have two students now, new this semester, that will be doing a lighting audits here at City Hall next week. So we'll get a report from that. And there's been a lot of LET conversions already in certain areas of City Hall, but it'll give the city a big picture of what the total energy savings and cost savings could be once everything within City Hall is converted. And so there'll be looking at the lighting itself and lighting controls. I guess the only other update I have is I know I put out an email to everyone a while back saying, apply for your parking pass. I don't know if we're gonna get together in person for meetings so I don't know how important that parking pass is gonna be if you haven't applied for it. So that's another thing. I guess I had more updates than I realized. Also Seth, I don't know if you're aware of this or not, but sadly Cody, is in his last meeting. He's gonna step down from Sustainability Commission. He wasn't able to make it tonight, but he will be at the September meeting. So if you have any ideas of, I have potentially a few people in mind, but if you have suggestions of potential replacements for Cody, think of people that have different areas of expertise related to sustainability. Cody was sort of unique 'cause he had energy management and he had waste. I mean he had a lot of different things in his role with festival foods. So keep that in mind. Preferably a resident of the City of Green Bay. And you can just email me if you do have any suggestions.

- Is that something we would maybe wanna put on our webpage that we're looking for? I don't know, do you advertise for something like that?

- Usually, I talked to the mayor about it today and so the mayor asked me if I had any suggestions, but I don't really know if that would be an official process to like advertise for it. I just, I don't know.

- Usually commissions don't, I don't know why not, seems to makes sense in many ways, but just hasn't been a past practice. I would like to see in general, maybe someone from business.

- If it's not against our rules or our policy, I can put something on Facebook on our feed.

- Addie, I would hold off on that note.

- Okay, yeah, no problem.

- I think that would be a good thing to get the opinion of, I don't know, the city attorney or just kind of what the best practices are, because I feel like when recruitment for boards, commissions, things are just within our networks, we tend to self-select and we don't end up with a very diverse group of folks. So the more we can promote it out in the world, I think we're just at the end of the day leans towards a more diverse set of ideas, folks with different expertise individuals, I mean, this is an open meeting you're saying this here. I don't see like legally why that isn't something that can be advertised. So little clarity on that would be good because openness and transparency is important.

- I'm thinking we can, I don't think there's any rules against it. It's just never wasn't for past practice. I mean, I don't know why-

- I will run it past the Law Department and just make sure that it would be okay.

- I could have sworn I saw a commission, maybe it wasn't green bay, but do like a ad even sponsored on Facebook for openings. Might've been a different city 'cause I'm cool and I follow lots of local governments.

- Melissa, what would the term be for that? Do you know?

- A three-year term.

- Okay. We are looking at hiring a conservation corps coordinator to put together and AmeriCorps program within the parks Department. I don't know if it could be it. That coordinator position is only for one year, but the hope is that the coordinator would be writing a grant to create a program grant and then that position would carry over. So I don't know whether or not it could be another city staff member, but it might be a good candidate, whoever that person is.

- I will ask if we can have more than one staff person. All right, guys, that's it for me. Committee updates, sorry, Seth.

- Clean Energy Work Group, I can start, I guess with that John or Melissa or Ned, you might have some additions here. I think John, Melissa, and I had a really good conversation, was last Tuesday about some of the different goals of our Clean Energy Work Group. Figuring out the scope, the internal versus external. There are a lot of really great resources that Melissa shared with us about how some cities are going about the climate action. And I think over the course of the next few weeks, there's gonna just be some alignment of goals, figuring out, the mayor spoke very strongly about addressing climate in his state of the city address. It is my hope that we can, government always takes a little bit longer than a year, I would like, either next month or the following month have a presentation on what we've done as a commission so far on some of our clean energy work and then lay out some of our options. So we have like a consensus on how to move forward on a climate action plan and some of the city goals, I think that will just get us all on the same page and really help us take the next steps and stepping into code red for humanity. I'm sure lot of us heard about the ITCC report. There's really never been no time like the present to address climate change. And it's really up to us at the local level to lead the charge here. So yeah, hopefully September or October, we can have a good discussion on that. I think if you have thoughts on that, please do reach out to myself or John or Melissa on what that might look like and some of that, but I look forward to having a really good conversation that leads to really bold action. So that's my bit, I don't know John or Melissa, if you have any additions on that topic specifically.

- I would say that I think we've got enough information with what we've compiled so far in terms of data for where we're at, I guess this is our benchmark, our current benchmark. And it would be good to share that with the powers that be and the necessary elements for a climate action plan. And just to share out that information where we wanna go and then find out where leadership wants us to go from there. So I think we can put that presentation together fairly quickly. It's just who we're sharing it with and what's our trajectory gonna look like.

- Awesome, any other questions or additions to this topic? Otherwise, I'm gonna make a chair decision allow for any other committee updates other than, or individual updates other than from the Clean Energy Group.

- I could, it's not necessarily a committee update, but the county used to have a Food Waste and Organics Drop-off program and we had a pretty successful one, we had a couple hundred people, a couple hundred households that participated in that. Santa Marks dropped that program. Actually just yesterday, I was approached via email by a brand new company in Green Bay that is now, he had retired as being based, only curbside compost pickup service. And I know of a couple other local individuals who are doing pick up of food waste and compost, but it does beg the question of whether or not there is the desire at a municipal level to explore the options for a program like this. Food waste is somewhere between 20 and 25% of all the waste going into landfills. And it is a significant contributor from a landfill standpoint of methane. And it's just that we waste a ton, a lot of tons of food in a variety of areas and a program like this really has a strong benefit for any community. There aren't a lot of successful municipal programs statewide yet. Milwaukee, Madison, Stevens Point, Lacrosse, have all looked at them, but I think it's something I would ask that we take a look at. Maybe the City of Green Bay can take a better stab at it. The county is in a weird position when it comes to waste, while we get all the waste, we don't collect anything. So we don't have the ability to actually run a program ourselves that's anything more than drop-off and we don't have an end market for whatever we collect. So it really does require a little more than the facilities we have and that'd be readily available. And it's something that I think the community really would look for. We continue to get calls on a pretty regular basis from both businesses and individuals to see if we're gonna start the program up again, or if we are gonna do something new with it. Anyway, I think it fits well within something that Sustainability Commission should be looking at.

- Mark, any idea what kind of capacity the private individual has?

- I reached out to him to actually ask, he will do tours. It sounds like he's working on a residential lot. I have some concerns that what he's doing, he says it falls within state rules that he doesn't need a permit which means it's pretty small. But that means he's also not handling a lot of stuff and his rules for what he allows of are a little bit more limited than what we had capacity for through the, actually, UW Oshkosh Digester Program. None of the fats or grease is allowed, but nonetheless it's an option and it's truthfully the best programs right now in our data on by private either nonprofits or a consortium that is between a municipality and some type of farming operation that can handle the compost. The biggest issue is what do we do with the material once it's been composted? What do you do with it? It's great that you can create this stuff. We can always find a way to try to treat it in a compost facility, but then at the end of the day, what do you do with it once it's been degraded down to compost?

- What are other cities like San Francisco, it sells it to farmers, right?

- A lot of them use a variety of technologies to actually reduce the material down to a compost. UWGB is John's pilot program is a small scale example of what some larger areas do. Biodigesters fit into this as part of the mix. Farming operations absolutely fit into it as part of the mix so that you have to have a willing participant, the egg side of who's willing to take the material on and have a use for it in the long run. Milwaukee partners with compost crusader, Melissa Tashjian runs a collection service basically. And then she works with an organic farm like racing that takes the material, Sue's Composting out of the Fond Du Lac area, they're one of the composting companies that does that, Steven's Point has an organization that started out as a couple of students working on an organic farm that then bought the operation and they provide a subscription and pickup service. And this guy sounds like he's doing kind of the same thing. He just doesn't have, there's no way his operation right now could be big enough to handle a municipal program as a rule municipal wide. I know that the, I can't think of her name, the woman out of Crivitz who comes down and does some collections into pier. There's a company on Sheboygan that was looking to expand into our area. But I think as a community, have to show a willingness to start up some kind of program to actually get these people more involved. And then maybe it's a competitive process to get a variety of haulers and a disposer into the mix.

- Is it Donna? Is that who comes down from Crivitz?

- Yeah, FarmHer Donna, that's what her name is, yeah.

- I mean food waste markets, it's such a huge part of climate change and yeah, I feel like other cities have had policies in places for and San Francisco since the '90s. Yeah, do you think there are any model ordinances that we could look into?

- Oh, absolutely, yep. Yeah, I mean, there are programs nationwide. State of Massachusetts is the first state that actually passed a statewide organics collection mandate. So curbside every community, the state of Massachusetts has to do curbside collection. Washington, Oregon, and California all have collection programs. Dubuque, Iowa, maybe one we wanna, it would be more in our region is something that they've done. There's several programs in the twin cities that are looking at that one run by one of the local tribes up there as a collection facility. But you gotta have the population in somewhat to get to that density level and it's a willing population and a system in place that will handle all this.

- 'Cause I've been reading through other communities' climate action plans. Dane County was especially comprehensive and thorough and there are five or six different sections that have specific recommendations. And one of the sections is on waste materials and it really focuses on food waste. So that was interesting and something we can consider as we get to the community-wide climate action planning if we want that to be a component of I think there'd be like Ned said a big reason to do so.

- With the compost, isn't that something you wanna spread around?

- Yeah, and you wanna shovel it deep too.

- Well, I do that.

- Seth and John met for the climate group. I wasn't able to make that one, but I do have a meeting coming up with our, if you're done Mark, I'm sorry. Are you done? You are, okay. with our school superintendent early next week and we have been meeting off and on to discuss climate action at the school district level. So I think, and I said this before about our groups, I think that other governmental organizations around us kind of looking at what we've been able to deal with in the city and we act as a model. So I think that's good. I think we're showing leadership and I think it's spreading. So I guess I also wanted to ask, if the sisters, we had a couple sisters from St. Francis, I know that they attended a couple of times ago, and if they wanted to speak, we could suspend the rules if they needed, if they were here to share anything or did you ladies wanna speak at all?

- At this point, I think we're trying to learn what's happening in our area. So this is our reason for trying to observe the Sustainability Commission. I've been in communication with someone at the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay to learn more about what might be happening in some of the parishes. And as a former faculty member at St. Norbert to learn what they're doing, for example, they have purchased a biodigester, it's not installed yet, and of course they have in their whole food area, they have done so much to control the amount for waste.

- Sister, if I may, we should probably open the floor.

- [Sister Sally Ann] Oh, okay.

- Motion to suspend the rules.

- [John] To open the floor.

- Yep.

- Second, second to open.

- Sorry, it's 2021, I still can't find the mute button. Open the floor, a motion by Randy seconded by Ned, in favor, say aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed. All right, the floor is yours Sister Sally Ann.

- So we of course here have been trying to work on sustainability. But we know that we have much to learn. And so that's my reason for reaching out to other entities in the local community. Basically, we're here to learn and it is very educational, thank you.

- Thank you for being here.

- [Sister Sally Ann] You're welcome.

- Do you have a contact person at St. Norbert who would know more about their biodigester that you could share?

- Their Sustainability Committee is chaired by Dr. Mark Bockenbauer and I'm sorry, right off the top of my head, I don't know who's in charge of Food Service right now.
- Yeah, I know that their person who had been part of their Food Service retired this past year. So I don't know who the new person is.
- Mark, you might want to contact Rick Wapinsky. I think he oversees that area. He was the former union director of operations at UW Green Bay.
- Okay, thank you.
- If that's all Sister Sally Ann, I'll make a motion-
- Yes.
- Okay, then I'll make the motion to close the floor.
- Okay.
- Great, thank you Sister Sally Ann. Motion to close the floor by Ned second by Randy. All those in favor, say aye.
- Aye.
- All those opposed, say nay? Okay, anything else? Any other updates from folks before we get to the end of the meeting here?
- I have an update.
- Yeah.
- It's an exciting one. Mark, I didn't know if you were gonna steal the thunder. It's regarding the next Trex Challenge and the fact that we've already met our 500 pound goal of what the collecting the plastic film. So yay. We are gonna continue with the collection of the plastic and we're planning to submit again for another bench after the six month time period is up. So it's been successful. The wildlife sanctuary seems to be the most popular drop-off site, which is great. And today I just got an email that we're gonna be posting these flyers next to the bins. There's a QR code on there and it takes you to a site where you can purchase these reusable bags and they have really cool, like Green Bay related things on them. It's the Bayg, B-A-Y-G, like Green Bayg, right? Some of them say, so it's just exciting and kind of trying to help the initiative to reduce the amount of plastic that ends up in the waste. So that's all.
- Yeah, Kaurie, I wasn't here this past week when they came in and weighed up, I know that they had a couple hundred pounds the very first time. So I was hopeful that it was moving along pretty well. And that's really great to hear. Every bag that comes out of the waste stream, I'm thrilled with, so, yeah, good job.
- Can we know where we're going to put the first bench?

- At the wildlife sanctuary near the Observation Building, the front entrance, where there's a collection bin. And I think that might be a little free library right there too so that way people can kind of see what they're contributing towards. So that's the plan.
- Well, great news. Thanks Kaurie. Any other updates that folks have?
- Bueller, Bueller. All right, hearing none, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.
- Move to adjourn.
- All right Ned seconded by Randy. All those in favor. Oh, we have a third.
- My dog, yeah.
- All right, it sounds like he wants to adjourn too, all those in favor of adjourning bark or say aye.
- Aye.
- All those opposed say nay. All right, well adjourned. Good to see you off and we'll see you when we see you.
- Bye.
- [Seth] Bye.
- Thanks everybody.