



MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2022, 5:00 PM
Virtual Meeting. Public may join via Zoom.

A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.

I. This item contains Zoom information, instructions, and a link to the Virtual Comment Form.

B. ROLL CALL.

I. Chair- Seth Hoffmeister; Vice Chair-Ned Dorff; Alder Mark Steuer; John Arendt; Stephanie Dodge; Amy Kox; Kaurie Mihm-PRF; Julia Noordyk; Mark Walter.

Present: Mark Walter, Kaurie Mihm, John Arendt, Mark Steuer, Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister,
Excused: Julia Noordyk, Amy Kox

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

I. Approval of the Sustainability Commission meeting agenda for July 20, 2022.

Moved by John Arendt, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to approve agenda for July 20, 2022.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Mark Steuer, No- None,
Abstain- None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of minutes from June 15, 2022.

Moved by Ald. Mark Steuer, seconded by Kaurie Mihm to approve .

Motion Passed.

Yes- Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Mark Steuer, No- None,
Abstain- None.

E. REGULAR BUSINESS.

F. INFORMATIONAL.

I. Resiliency Coordinator updates

- The Citywide Comprehensive Energy Planning Grant agreement will go to the Finance Committee for consideration on 7/26/22.
- Residential Rain Barrel Pilot: Barrels will be delivered to pre-registered households over the next two weeks by Public Works staff. .
- Rain Barrel installation video and other resources are on the Public Works area of City website.
- As part of the green infrastructure code project, staff are working on Chapter 44 Landscaping Standards amendments with the home builders association.

2. Updates from Commission members

- City of Green Bay is waiting for notification of AmeriCorps grant.

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to adjourn.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Ned Dorff, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, John Arendt, Kaurie Mihm, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None.

VERBATIM MINUTES

Roll Call

- Ned Dorff?

- Present.

- Alder Steuer?

- Here.

- John Arendt?

- Present.

- Stephanie Dodge is not here, not excused. Amy Cox, not here. She's excused. She emailed me a little while ago. Kaurie?

- Present.
- And Julia not here, but excuse. Mark?
- Here.
- All right, we'll move on then to approval of the agenda for today's meeting July 20th. Is there a motion?
- Move to approve.
- Motion.
- [Mark] I'll second.
- All right. Motion by John, seconded by Mark. All those in favor, say aye.
- Aye.
- Aye.
- All those opposed, say nay. All right. Motion passes. Moving right along. Approval of the minutes from our last meeting, June 15th. Is there a motion?
- Motion to approve.
- By Alder Steuer. Is there a second?
- Second.
- I'll Second.
- I'll give that one to Kaurie. All those in favor, say aye.
- Aye
- Aye.
- (Seth)- All those opposed, say nay. All right. Moving right along. No regular business today, just a few updates. We can all have a nice long summer evening with a short agenda. So I'll pass it to you, Melissa. for resiliency coordinator updates.
- (Resiliency Coordinator)- Okay, let me just start my video. Alright, so updates for current work that relate that relate back to our work plan, the city-wide comprehensive energy planning grant. We did receive the agreement in place and it will go to the finance committee next week for consideration on the grant agreement. And then after that, if finance committee approves to accept the grant then it'll be on the August 2nd common council meeting. And again, just, I'm sure we all know what I'm talking about but the city-wide comprehensive energy planning grant relates back to

the city's climate goals of 100% carbon neutrality and clean energy. So that relates back to the work plan in that regard. And then after we have assigned grant agreement in place that's when we can start the work. And this is a collaborative project with the water utility and with Green Bay Metro Transit. And we have matching funds coming in from public works, and transit, and water utility, and The Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross. So Sister, I will be in touch with you once we get those approvals in place.

- Yes. Thank you. We'd like it done before the end of August.

- I would anticipate, yes.

- Okay, good.

- (Resiliency Coordinator)- Okay, next update is in regards to the green storm water infrastructure code amendments. All of the code amendments, with the exception of the Chapter 44 Landscaping Standards, were adopted. Staff is in discussions with the home builders association on the landscaping standards. And those changes will go back to plan commission once those amendments have been worked out. And then it'll go through the regular process again with plan commission and then to common council for two readings. But I don't have any specific dates on when it will go back to plan commission at this point. Hopefully some time in August.

- (Alder Steuer) I was gonna say, Melissa, isn't the planning on, there's a meeting on the 25th of this month for plan, Would it go to, would it go to plan commission for then?

- Well, we have a staff meeting regarding that on Monday, July 25th.

- (Alder Steuer)- Oh, okay. Well then the next plan commission after that would be August 8th.

- I would say that's a possibility, but I really, I can't say for certain.

- Alright. Okay.

- (Resiliency Coordinator)- The next update is about the rain barrel pilot program that was launched at the beginning of June. We had very high interest right away, once we posted the online registration, and the registration is closed right now. We had 500 rain barrels and they were registered for within about five hours.

- Nice.

- (Resiliency Coordinator)- And the public works' crews will start delivering rain barrels probably sometime next week to homes. So, if you registered for a rain barrel, you have been contacted about that. So, and then we also have a very helpful rain barrel installation video, and other resources, on the city's website within the public works area of the website. And lastly, I don't have an update per se, but I just wanted to mention that we do not have an update at this time for the pesticide/herbicide use policy for city operations. It's still being worked on.

- (Ned) That update, that pesticide one. Do you have any idea if that's gonna come back soon? Sooner rather than later, or later rather than sooner?

- It depends on where it falls within the priority for my work. Because it's been re-assigned back to me.

- Got it okay. Understandable, understand.

- Okay. So that's about, I mean, I will hope like within, you know, next month I'll have a better update, you know something to, you know, more substantial to pass along on that. But Ned it is, it was clear, correct, that this was for city-wide operations, not just parks land?

- Correct.

- Okay. And that's all I have. Does anyone have questions?

- (Kaurie) I do have a question just with the rain barrels and how successful that was. Do you know if there are plans to kind of continue that, moving forward, you know, offering them to the residents or how that might work?

- (Resiliency Coordinator) Well at this time we are basically not, not this year, Kaurie. That's the short answer. So, since the program was fully subscribed within just a matter of hours and then we continued to get requests in after that, even when we took down the online registration, people were trying to register just by sending emails, and things like that, to the city, I did maintain a waiting list in case we had some cancellations, which we have had some cancellations. So I've now gone back to that waiting list and and called everyone to ask them if they're interested in. So what I think will happen is we will more than likely continue it next season. And it will have some program changes going forward. It may not be a free program. We'd also like to tie in some more educational opportunities with it as well. So we have, you know, we'll spend some time after the deliveries are made and we get more feedback from residents who have received a rain barrel on making some changes, some changes going forward.

- Sounds great.

- Yep. I mean, I think everyone was very surprised. I thought it would fill up like, within a week, rather than a day, so.

- So just for the next year, I mean, is it all done for this year?

- Yes.

- Okay, and what's the time period again to do that? You know, from beginning to end, roughly?

- We posted it near, in the beginning of June.

- Okay.

- Alder Steuer, and I want to say it was like June 6th or 7th, is when it was posted through the public works Facebook page. And we had a whole communications plan around it, but we didn't need to utilize that communications plan after that because it just filled up so quickly.

- How many were given out so far?
- They'll be delivered, they'll start, there will be 500 total.
- Okay. Very good. Very good.
- And we did order some extra, but those are reserved. We're do some rain barrel workshops either with some youth, like through the Kroc Center, or potentially through the public library. So those aren't necessarily for residents you know, regular, you know, the way we started the program. We intentionally wanted to do some targeted workshops. So those will be for later this summer/early fall to do some rain barrel workshops.
- Okay.
- And that was through ARPA funding that paid for the rain barrels.
- Okay, great.
- Awesome, if there are no other questions, we'll move on then to updates from commission members.
- (Kaurie) I have something I'd like to share, which is just we are getting very close to finding out if we're gonna be awarded the AmeriCorps Grant to start the Green Bay Conservation Corp. We should have already been informed from what they originally told us, but I think, what did Maria say, I think August 15th or something like that is when the program due date is. So our notice of award would hopefully come before then. So hoping to get that up and going very soon. We are accepting applications right now for membership, so please help spread the word.
- (Seth) That's really exciting news, fingers crossed! Any other updates from folks today?
- (Alder Steuer) I've got one that, well, not so much an update but it's more or less a type of conversation that I've been having with folks lately, both in the private and public sector about sustainability, you know working and and some of my planning friends have been talking, they're very interested in our committee, what we're working on. But then we're also, he was, they were also talking about not so much just sustainability, but resiliency. You know, kind of where we're, you know, kind of where the rubber really hits the road, so to speak. So I've had some interesting conversations with folks. I'm gonna try to write some of this up and you know, maybe a few, one or two of these folks come in and you know, just to talk, have the conversation. But I, a lot of interesting points about just you know it's not just looking to the future to sustain, but you know, what we have to do to be resilient right now. And, you know, sometimes they agree with each other and sometimes they clash. So anyway, that's just kind the tact I'm taking as of late with some folks that I know. So I love to converse about it and I'd be welcome to speak to anybody about all of that sometime. So, that's it.
- (Seth) Okay good, that'd be great to have them here. Thanks, Alder Steuer. Other updates from Fed today?

- (Ned) A couple constituent requests came in to look at. One was to see if the parks department is putting water filling stations at parks around town, especially . So I asked Dan about that and he said, "yes, those are, those are available". So that's good to hear, to cut back on some of the plastic waste. And another request came in for us to look into something called non-toxic neighborhoods. Kaurie, maybe you've heard of that too from the same friend who asked if, if yeah. So maybe we can talk about what that might look like in between now and the next meeting. And then for pollinator corridor work, looking at hopefully a volunteer to, that I have met this summer, that may be interested in, kind of leading some working group meetings in the near future, which would be nice. Because we haven't had one in, in a while. I think the last one we had, we brought up No Mow May, so that ended up being pretty successful. That's what I have right now.

- (Seth) Great, thank you Ned. Any other updates from folks? Otherwise, we might be on track to have our shortest meeting ever. Bueller? Bueller?

- All right. Well hearing none. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

- Move to adjourn.

- All right. And is there a second?

- I'll second.

- By Alder Steuer. All right, all those in favor say aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- All those opposed, say nay.

- Nay.

- All right.

- Thank you to The Sisters too. Thank you so much for your generosity.

- Thank you. Yes, very much so.