



MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022, 5:00 PM

In person at City Hall Room 310.

Virtual attendance also available via Zoom.

A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.

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

B. ROLL CALL.

Present: Seth Hoffmeister, Christa Kananen, John Arendt, Ned Dorff, Julia Noordyk, Kaurie Mihm, Mark Walter

Excused: Amy Kox

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

I. Approval of the Sustainability Commission meeting agenda for December 21, 2022.

Moved by Mark Walter, seconded by John Arendt to approve the agenda for December 21, 2022.
Motion Passed.

Yes- Kaurie Mihm, John Arendt, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, Ned Dorff, Julia Noordyk, Christa Kananen, No- None, Abstain- None.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of minutes from October 19, 2022.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by Kaurie Mihm to approve the minutes from October 19, 2022.
Motion Passed.

Yes- Kaurie Mihm, John Arendt, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, Ned Dorff, Julia Noordyk, Christa Kananen, No- None, Abstain- None.

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Introduction of new Sustainability Commission member, Christa Kananen.

2. Greener Bay Compost was awarded the Wisconsin DNR's 2022 Recycling Excellence Award in the "Overall Program" category, for Residential Compost Pickup Service.

F. REGULAR BUSINESS.

No action items.

G. PRESENTATION.

1. New Leaf Foods presentation.

The speaker was unable to attend and will reschedule.

H. INFORMATIONAL. ITEMS FROM THE 11/16/22 MEETING

1. Pesticide policy discussion for Parks and other City properties.

The Parks, Recreation and Forestry (PRF) Director gave an informational update and discussion followed.

2. Work Group Updates

Climate Resilience & Adaptation workgroup: Julia Noordyk, Alder Steuer, and Alder Hutchinson attended the comprehensive green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) plan kick-off meeting held on Dec. 8.

Clean Energy workgroup: A community survey is being prepared for the city-wide clean energy plan and the Sustainability Commission help get the word out to Green Bay residences and businesses to encourage survey participation. Commissioners have an opportunity to engage with the public at an outreach event being held at the Brown County Central Library on February 25 Noon-2:00 PM.

Healthy Habitat for All workgroup: Ned Dorff gave an overview of the workgroup and current initiatives; Pesticide Use Policy & Dark Sky policy.

3. Resiliency Coordinator updates

Progress update on the City-Wide Clean Energy Plan and City-Wide Green Stormwater Infrastructure Planning project.

I. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ned Dorff, seconded by John Arendt to adjourn.

Motion Passed.

Yes- Kaurie Mihm, John Arendt, Seth Hoffmeister, Mark Walter, Ned Dorff, Julia Noordyk, Christa Kananen, No- None, Abstain- None.

VERBATIM MINUTES

- In the room. Wonderful. All right. Well, happy December, everybody. We'll call the meeting to order here at 5:04 PM. Item A, Zoom meeting information. That looks good. Item B, roll call. Chair, I am here. Vice Chair Ned Dorff.

- Present.

- Alder Mark Steuer does not appear to be there. And I didn't get an excuse notice from him. I don't know if you did, Melissa.

- No.

- John Arendt.

- Present.

- Amy Cox. She is not able to make it and is excused. Kaurie Mihm.

- Present.

- Julia Noordyk.

- Present.

- And our newest member, Christa Kananen. Did I say that right?

- You did not, but that's okay. Kananen and present.

- All right. And we'll have an intro in a little bit on the agenda here, but welcome. And Mark Walter.

- Present.

- All right. Approval of the agenda for today's meeting, December 21st. Is there a motion to approve?

- So moved.

- By Mark, I think. Is there a second? By John on the screen. All those in favor of approving the agenda, say aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- All those opposed, say nay. All right. That is approved. Approval of the minutes from our last meeting, October 19th. Is there a motion to approve?

- Move to approve.

- A motion by Ned. Is there a second?

- A second.

- By Kaurie, I think. All those in favor, say aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- All those opposed, say nay. All right. Moving on to Section E, announcements. Yeah, introduction of our newest Sustainability Commission member, Christa. Yeah, welcome. Would you like to introduce yourself?

- Thank you. Yes, I'm glad to be here. So Christa Kananen. I'm married into that name, so apologies. But I've lived in Green Bay for about 10 years now, Downtown 47. And I work with an organization called Wisconsin Sustainable Business Council. Our mission is to advance sustainability through the power of business. And that is in terms of providing resources, education, networking opportunities. And then additionally, through our partner organization, Wisconsin Manufacturers Extension Partnership, we offer sustainability consulting services. So I believe I'm here to be the voice of business in the area, or at least do my best to represent that. Before I joined Wisconsin Sustainable Business Council, I worked at Green Bay Packaging for a little over six years as part of their corporate environmental and sustainability team. I was briefly at New Water before that. And before that, I was at UWGB where I graduated with a degree in geoscience. So happy to be here and glad to contribute however I can.

- Excellent. We're so excited to have you join the commission and to have that business perspective as well. Do we wanna do just like quick, quick intros, folks in the room for Christa? I can start. I'm Seth, I'm the chair. I'm also a downtown resident. My day job is with an environmental nonprofit. And yeah, clean energy, climate justice are all big passions of mine. And really excited for all of the work we're doing for our climate action plan. I'm gonna popcorn it to John Arendt.

- Hi, Christa. My name is John Arendt. I'm the director of the Environmental Management and Business Institute and the director of Sustainability at UW Green Bay. And I've worked with Mark McDermott for a number of years with your organization, so I'm very familiar with it. Nice to meet you.

- Yeah, thank you. Nice to meet you. I was hired in part to fill Mark's shoes as you moved into retirement, so there's been some big shoes. I keep offering a caveat like, hey, these shoes are a little big for me right now, but yeah, I'm glad. I'm looking forward to working with you both.

- All right, Ned.

- Hi, Chris. I'm Ned Dorff. I teach at Aldo Leopold Community School, and former Washington Street resident. We moved all the way out to just kitty-corner from that neighborhood. So still living in the central city. And I have kind of a passion for pollinator habitat and renewable energy. And I try to work on those kinds of projects with the city and with the school district.

- All right. And that's all the members on the Zoom. But shout out to Sally Ann Brickner, who is one

of our most attended guests. Great to see you tonight, Sally. We haven't opened up the floor, so I'm not gonna pass the baton to you, but I will kick it to the room. Yeah, whoever wants to jump in.

- Okay. Hi, I'm... I don't know. Camera's right behind me. Okay. Can you see me a little better?

- Just say your name and stuff.

- Sure. Hi, I'm Kaurie Mihm. I'm the park planner with the City of Green Bay Parks Department, which means I basically work on design and development within the parks. And I'm also very passionate about conservation work within our parks and just in general, was helpful in getting the Green Bay Conservation course started, which is new, just started this fall. That program is gonna be working on conservation efforts within our Parks and Greenways. So I get to continue to collaborate with the coordinator on that, which is quite exciting for me. So, yeah, excited that you're here. Welcome.

- Sorry, I know it's kind of awkward. Welcome, Christa. My name's Julia Noordyk. My day job, I work for UWC Grant which is focus... And I'm an outreach specialist, and I work with communities on water quality and coastal resilience. Oh, just so you know, I'm also a transplant at Green Bay about 10 years ago. And yeah, so.

- We're all transplants at summer. Evening. I'm Mark Walter. I actually worked for Brown County. I represent the west side of Green Bay, I think, those. And my day job involves, I work for called... It's called Port and Resource Recovery Department. So about 2/3 of my time is spent on recycling and hazardous waste and solid waste disposal. And about 1/3 of my time is spent on Port of Green Bay activities, which this year meant a whole lot of grant writing, but no two days are the same. And I'm a transplant. Yeah, 34 years ago, I transplanted Green Bay, actually. Welcome.

- And Christa, I'm Melissa Schmitz. I'm the resiliency coordinator. And Christa and I met last week. She stepped up, and we talked for about an hour, so you know who I am.

- I'm feeling much better now, though it's still going remotely. It's really nice to meet all of you and get to be here.

- Awesome. Thanks, Christa. And then, yeah, moving on to Item 2 announcements. Melissa, did you put that on or mark?

- I did. I stuck that in there a couple of meetings ago. We had a guest speaker, Cory Groshek, from Greener Bay Compost. And there was a recent development with his business. They were named the Wisconsin DNR'S Recycling Excellence Award in the overall program category. And they're offering some more different parts of their residential compost pickup service. So I thought I'd add that in there just because we all met Corey and listened to his presentation. He just let me know, they're starting to offer you for the pickup meat, like certain types of meat in their composts from the household collection, which they had not offered before.

- And he's also expanded into small... Well, I think he's got two businesses he is working with.

- Yeah.

- knows one of them. I can't remember what the other one is. Some small business pickup compost as well.

- And so if there's any other announcements from the committee at large, now would be the time. I hope the announcements further up into the meeting so that everyone had a chance to say something before the end of the meeting when everyone just wants...

- I'll mention there is a... It's called the East River Collaborative. We have a website, so if you haven't heard of us before. but we are doing a winter forum on January 10th. It's virtual, and it is from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. So yeah, so some of you are probably on the email list, but we'll be recording it too for those since I know that's in the middle of the day for some people. But maybe I can send out the link from the information. But yeah, so we'll have update. East River Collaborative is about building community resilience to flooding for the whole watershed.

- And tomorrow, WDAY is gonna have a one of my colleagues interviewing on what to recycle for Christmas, what to do with your wrapping paper, your lights and everything else. So 4:30 tomorrow there with Cami Rapson, one of my colleagues who has interviewed today. So she'll be talking about the dos and don'ts of Christmas time recycling, and what we can accept and what we cannot accept and the like. If you haven't downloaded the Betterbin app yet, do it. We're at like 14, 1,500 users. We would like to be like a 14,000.

- I just did it. You just did it?

- Yeah, 'cause I don't know, I had no idea.

- Yeah.

- I did not know.

- My daughter-in-law booked... Yesterday, I scanned a book to show the woman at book stop how it works. And Paperback Book said they were not recyclable. And actually, in our area, they are. There's a process to let them know what's right and what's wrong, and so we've updated it already. So if you checked the Paperback Books and Betterbin, we'll tell you the recycle

- That seems like I probably would've done.

- A lot of places-

- So tell us what you're thinking.

- Okay, sorry. So were there any other announcements? Seth, I think we can move on to the next item.

- All right, moving on then. Regular business, it looks like there is none. But we do have a presentation from New Leaf Foods. Riley, is that you? Or is there somebody in the room presenting?

- New Leaf Foods, canceled about 40 minutes ago.

- Oh, okay. Well, moving right along.
- And she will be rescheduling with us hopefully in another month or two.
- Okay. Do we need to receive this in place on file or just move along?
- It was presented as an informational item, so I think we can just move along.
- All right. And then we have a whole stint of things from our November meeting where we weren't able to meet quorum. Item 1, pesticide policy discussion for parks and other city properties. Is that Ned?
- No, I see Dan here, I believe.
- Okay.
- I don't know if you'd like to talk. But Dan Ditscheit and I have been in communication over the last couple months, as well as Melissa about this item. And the idea this year was to take a look at what are we doing using pesticides and what can we do better? Maybe we were already practices that we can codify. And so to that end, Dan and I have had some conversations. And he sent me what Appleton is doing. And we both kind of reviewed that. And then Dan's intent is to use that as kind of a model for what we could look at for Green Bay. And I'll kind of leave it at that. Because Dan is here, so I don't wanna say anything more that maybe you could say or maybe you would feel like sharing with us.
- Sure. Yeah, I can add to that. So I'm Dan Ditscheit, I'm the Green Bay Parks Recreation and Forestry director. So as Ned mentioned, we've been talking about this for several months. Where we sit with the process right now, as Ned mentioned, is we're gonna use the Appleton policy as kind of a template to start with. Now, their policy strictly addresses fertilizer and turf grass maintenance. So I know that we'd like to do a little bit more and talk about herbicides and pesticides in the parks. And of course, fertilizer is considered an herbicide. So I have started that draft. I was really hoping to have that draft at this meeting in a final review stage. But the process of reviewing it with staff is taking a little bit longer than I anticipated. So where I sit right now is I have a rough draft that I've submitted to other park staff for their review. I've received their comments. And I have to incorporate their comments and tweak it. And then I'll work with Ned prior to your next meeting to maybe go back and forth with Ned and Melissa to see, is there ways that even I can improve that policy even more than the initial draft that I put together? So I'm very hopeful that at your next meeting, we'll have a policy that we can do in more detail. And then just as a side note, any policies that come before this committee here, I'm only looking at it from a park perspective since parks are really the primary users of herbicides and pesticides in the city as far as the municipal-owned areas. And so I'm looking at drafting a park policy. And then I'll review that with the sustainability commission. And that will be a referral to the Park Committee 'cause the Park Committee reviews and approves all park policies. But I'm hoping we'll have it in such a format that your committee will be in agreement with before it gets sent on to parks for review.
- Thanks for being here and addressing that, Dan. And certainly, as a committee, would love to take a look at things. If something comes to us, we would refer it onward to the proper committee. But I appreciate you working with us to kind of get our eyeballs on it first. I appreciate that. I don't know if

anybody has any other questions for Dan or myself on this particular item.

- Ned, I had a question as a staff person. Was the intention for this to be mostly targeted just at parks' properties since there are so many of them, or also for any public works facilities and properties where pesticides or primarily herbicides would be used? Like for example, we have a lot of stormwater maintenance facilities where it needs to be used to control invasive species. So what would the scope entail?

- So I guess my preference would be that it would be anything owned municipally. And hopefully, it'd be broad enough to allow because some of those stormwater retention areas do use an ecological use of pesticides and herbicides. So hopefully, we could craft a policy that would apply to DPW land as well as Parkland. And I know we talked a little bit about... Dan and I talked on the phone. It sounds like Dan, you'd like to focus on Parkland. Am I right about that? Or what do you think the policy would be brought on land?

- Well, I think how I'm writing, it's broad enough, but obviously I can't speak for other departments. So if you'd like Public Works to be brought into this discussion, in the very near future, I'll have a draft that I can present to Melissa. And she can bring that to Public Works for their comment and review. And maybe we can do a joint policy for parks and INS or parks and DPW. It's one of those things where if we bring in other departments, we just need to get their input before we bring it to this committee. It's doable, though. It's possible.

- Okay. Wonderful. I appreciate you asking that, Melissa, that helps clarify.

- I think xxx true would be worth considering like the RDA-owned property within the city as well. I think there's quite a bit of it. So maybe also taking a look at that as part of the city-owned parcels.

- And one thing to note with the RDA-owned parcels is starting January 1st, parks is going to be maintaining the grounds for all RDA parcels. So our policy would address the R D A properties.

- Excellent. Are there any other departments that we can think of that would need to be included in this as far as review? I mean, most of the land is owned by parks and DPW, correct? I think the vast majority.

- Correct.

- Okay.

- Okay.

- Police and and fire have a limited scope. But the Fire Department, they each have their own parcels too for each department or for each fire station. But again, their usage for chemicals and pesticides would be fairly minimal 'cause they only own a couple of properties, but we could review it with them, too.

- I think that would be great just to get it in front of everyone. So nobody says, "Hey, I didn't know about this going through. And now, I can't spray my driveway at the fire station," or whatever it might be. We don't wanna catch anyone off guard. We wanna get as many eyes on it before it gets to

council, I think, would be great.

- That's doable.

- Awesome.

- Julie has a question. So it was kind of brought up earlier, but some herbicide is a really important tool, especially for restoration sites and stormwater, like we're talking green infrastructure. So when you're crafting the policy ban, does Appleton take into consideration that? Or is that built into it, that you're not just eliminating the use of it in terms of very important conservation restoration tool?

- Yeah, so how I currently have it drafted... Well, first, going off of Appleton's policy, they don't address it because their policy is turf maintenance policy. It's not necessarily an herbicide, pesticide policy. We're just using that as a template to create kind of a broader policy for us. But that being said, we do have in my draft that I put together, I do have a statement in there saying that herbicides are allowed for habitat restoration projects and stormwater management if it's used appropriately. So there's a broad statement like that in there.

- Thank you.

- Yeah, thank you.

- All right. Further questions or discussions on this? All right, thanks for joining us, Dan. I hope you have a happy holidays.

- Thank you.

- All right then, moving along to a group updates that would be clean energy, or pollinators, or any other work groups that have formed. Ned.

- So with the pollinator, kind of our two big goals this year were to get something crafted on pesticide use and something crafted around eliminating light pollution. So last month, Dave Hansen was able to send me some ordinances where he would think some of his suggestions for light pollution would fit best into. So I think over the course of the next month or so, I'd like to maybe send those on to Melissa, some notes on to Melissa that she could send out to the group just to get you all familiar with his recommendations and where his recommendations would fit into our current ordinances regarding light pollution on the street waves. So it would just be taking a look at municipal lights, not really touching what types of lights to use at private residences and businesses at this point, but just starting at looking at what we're doing municipally and on the streets. So hopefully the next month, we'll get a chance to share some of that with everyone, and then hopefully bring it up for either a discussion item or an action item in January or February, I think there's a hand up for the City of Green Bay.

- Yes, that was my hand. So Ned, when you send that, to pass something on me, and then I would pass it along to the rest of the commission, I really am not legally allowed to do that because that's forming a quorum without publicly noticing the meeting. So if you send me a draft, or if you send me something for the group, it has to be like maybe just your subcommittee that is looking at it where you're not having a quorum. Does that make sense? Meaning we can't be doing like business without

it being publicly noticed.

- It's not for us to discuss over online; it's just to share like documents.

- Same. I already consulted with a law department about a year and a half ago on this.

- Okay. I'll bring it up for an information item then next month.

- Thank you, Ned. Other questions or comments on this topic? All right, other working group updates? Melissa, did we want to talk about the survey now? Or did you wanna set the context for that in your update?

- We can talk about that now.

- Cool.

- I gonna guess something short. Julia has an update.

- Cool. Julia.

- A couple things. I think most may talk about this more, but I did attend the kickoff to the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Planning meeting. I thought it went really well. We had two aldermen there, Alder Steuer. And I should know the other person.

- Hutchinson.

- Thank you. I totally should know that. Alderman Hutchinson was there. And so I thought that was really great, really exciting. The pollinators were brought up and replacing turf with pollinator plantings. We have done modeling on that, like using wind slam. And there's big, big benefits actually just to replacing turf grass with deep-rooted native plants. So that was one update. And then I think some of the goals that my subcommittee one set last year were to work on, so summarizing climate change, like information about climate data and then also impacts. And so I have a graduate assistant who's been working on that. And he's been summarizing it for it. It wasn't polished enough for me to bring it to the committee yet or anything. And then as working with Melissa on the Flood Resilience Plan, that also information will go in there. He's gonna dive deeper into precipitation data, and some of the things we have over the current or like what's already been happening, how it's been changing, and then projected future changes, and then also like coastal flooding. We've been doing more like deeper analysis on that. That's why I was looking for help on trying to figure out ice cover data for the Bay. And then the other thing was, I think another goal was to start to try to map and identify areas in the city with people at risk and like what the impacts to those would be. And Sea Grant has been able to... They have a draft of it. My colleague did a social vulnerability index mapping of the City of Green Bay to the census group block, which is one level down from the census block. And so using the CDC's social vulnerability index and stuff, so we have some better spacial data about where the areas in the city are most vulnerable. So we can start like identifying areas and lining them up with like certain hazards and certain climate impacts, too. So it's in the works. It's nothing to share, but that's what we want.

- Awesome. Any questions or discussion on that topic? All right. Thanks, Julia.

- I don't know, give me a deadline. Kaurie asked when I'd be ready to share a deadline. As soon as I feel like I can.. I don't have it

- It would be awesome

- February, for sure.

- Okay. I'll give an update on the clean, the citywide clean energy plan. And this is for your benefit, Christa. About a year ago, the city applied for a grant to implement a study for a clean energy plan citywide for city operations and buildings, as well as the community at large. And that as a project that the Sisters of St. Francis, I'm gonna get it wrong, Sister Sally Ann. They were very instrumental with helping support that project. And we also had some other partners in that project as well. But as part of the project, we are going to be launching a community survey. There's a residential survey, and then there's also a business survey that's going out. And we'd like to start launching this in mid-January. And so we'll be gaining input from the community on what they'd like to see for clean energy initiatives through the City of Green Bay, everything from energy efficiency to renewable energy, a wide variety of questions. And our consultants, they helped us put all the questions together. It will be available in Spanish as well. As part of that grant application, Sustainability Commission was also listed as putting in some hours of service towards the grant, or the match for the grant. So Seth committed some hours, John committed some hours. But what we really like the Sustainability Commissions help with is promoting it through your own channels. So when it becomes available, sending it out to members in the community. It's important that we really target people that live within the City of Green Bay. So we're not really looking for all of Brown County to weigh in on this. So business connections, teachers, Ned, that you know of, or administrators that live within the City of Green Bay to share that out will have a prescribed email message that you don't have to think of. Like, okay, how should I describe what this is all about? We'll have that all ready to go to make it easy for you to pass along to your networks. It'll probably be open for about a month. Another aspect of the community outreach is we'd like to set up some in-person time at some organized local organizations in town for maybe people that don't have computers or don't have access to a computer to be able to do that. So that would be another opportunity for Sustainability Commission members to get involved. One possibility is at the Aging and Disability Resource Center in Downtown Green Bay where people, we could just have like office hours, and then they could come in, do the survey with a person just over the computer to be able to read the survey to folks. And then we also have some other local organizations that we're looking at doing direct outreach to as well. So stay tuned on that. I would really appreciate any support the Sustainability Commission can lend to that effort 'cause the more input that we get, the better plan we'll have for Green Bay. Seth, is there anything you'd like to add to that?

- I'm just super excited for this survey. I know that I'm gonna be writing down like a list of 10 or 20 people, organizations, businesses that I'm gonna personally send it out to, I think, over the next month as the survey is getting finalized, like really being intentional about like who we want to be asking. I think that Melissa and the Slipstream Team are gonna make it really easy for us to be able to send it to a lot of folks. But really blasting it out, and then having that personal ask is community organizing 101. So start thinking now. And then they're gonna make it super easy for us to, yeah, like Melissa said, tap into our personal network. So gonna start the year off strong.

- Is it phone friendly? Phone friendly? Like is it very easy to take on the phone?

- I don't know.

- Because that's the only way you get most of the people I know that do it.

- Okay, I will check that out.

- You're talking mobile.

- Yeah, yeah, I will check that out. Thank you.

- Yeah, most my friends have way of minds, right?

- Yeah.

- Yeah.

- Press one for clean energy.

- I think I'm no like... No, but yeah.

- So we're all working really hard on the clean energy plan right now. This is kind of bleeding over into the resiliency coordinator updates. But we are almost done with the data collection phase as far as all of the energy data goes for the city, city buildings and operations. And the week before last, we completed seven different energy audits at various buildings that are sort of tagged as high usage buildings within the city. So we've completed those with the help of one of our... Well, with our consultant as well. But we have a great intern from UWGB who's just finishing up her semester. And she did a ton of data compilation on the project. So we're really, really thankful for Haven Lancer. And we also have, I think, UWGB helping again in the spring for another portion. John, if you wanna give maybe just a two-minute spiel on what the spring intern will be doing.

- That's a good question. Still, I've got based idea of what they'll be doing, but a lot of it's gonna be focused on literature review and policy searching. The intern that we've got lined up will be starting January 23rd. and we'll work all of spring semester. We had talked about also involving that intern in some of the survey work, and looking at analyzing some of that as it comes in. So yeah, we've been fortunate. The interns we had certainly this fall, fantastic, and I suspect also be very good in the spring as well. And they've really helped advance the work that we've had to do for this grant.

- Awesome. Thanks, John. Any other questions or comments on the clean energy plan? All right, awesome. Super excited about this. Thanks for everything, Melissa, and John, and everybody involved. Are there any final work group updates before we pass it along to Melissa for more resilience updates?

- May I ask a quick question? And you can tell me if this isn't the place. What are all of the work groups? And kind of if you can gimme a quick overview of how those are determined or established.

- Yeah, no, great question. So they are very informal. So there's not a huge process. One of the intentions of our work with the Sustainability Commission is, as citizens, we want to involve even

more citizens, residents, organizations. So this allows us to get a lot of community input, and involve more people in the work, and ultimately report back to the commission so we can have all the work being in accordance with public meetings. But the workgroups roughly correspond with the different goals that we have set. I can email you that. And then I'm also happy to sit down and talk through some of that. And maybe you probably already did talk through a lot of the work with Melissa too, but the workgroups correspond with like the clean energy group, the pollinator goals, the resilience and green infrastructure. And then I think those are the most active one. We also have a goal around waste reduction. I'm not sure if there's like a semi-formal or informal workgroup around that one as well. But yeah, I guess if there's ever a project you want to do more work on, that is an option to kind of branch out and create like a subcommittee to involve more folks in the community.

- Right. Thank you.

- Of course. All right. Other questions, comments, discussions, updates? All right. And we will then move on to Melissa for any other coordinator updates.

- Okay, so Julia, she mentioned this early. But last week, we had our Citywide Green Infrastructure Planning Kickoff. And we invited various departments from within the city, from planners, to park staff, to public works. Finance was invited, I can't remember who was all invited. And then there were also two alders that were invited as well. The mayor was there. We had a great discussion. And it was really a workshop focused on what the city wants to get out of a Green Infrastructure Plan. And looking at public lands, as well as private lands. And this was sort of like our kickoff to really set the tone for the whole project. And the project should last about 11 months, 10 to 11 months. There is a lot of mapping involved in GIS data and hydrology. So it's a big engineering project, basically, but we should have a great product in the end. And also, it'll have very specific recommendations of where the best places are within the city to implement green infrastructure. So that along with the clean energy plan are really the two main things that I have going on for the next year. Sorry, can I say a couple more things to build off what-

- Sure. Just the green infrastructure plan, like two things that stood out to me. Like one of the priorities was definitely flooding. And then the other thing that got brought up more than I anticipated, which might be something this committee could work on, is there is an interest in like incentivizing residential rain or green infrastructure. So that's not something like the plan will really be able to address 'cause it's different. It's like, yeah, various reasons, but that might be something we could think about a little bit more.

- Mm-hmm.

- And the people who were most interested in that were actually the alderman. So that's why I bring that up because I was like, "Oh, you do think maybe we should do things maybe." But the city will be launching a revolving loan fund for residential properties, but that's different than an actual incentive versus like a grant saying, "Here's some money, go do a project," versus a loan you eventually have to pay back, or policy, policy stuff like credit or whatnot. I've received a lot of positive feedback on the workshop in general. And so a lot of data mining going on right now to get the consultant started. And that is pretty much it for me. Does anyone have any questions?

- Yeah.

- Just have a question on if you have any more updates. Am I still muted? Okay, good. On the revolving loan fund, I love the idea. I think it's worked for other avenues for our city, for business and things. Is that coming up soon, the revolving loan fund?

- Well, the goal, Ned, is to have it ready for the summer, but I will say that we are very short-staffed right now, and we are without a stormwater utility manager and two engineers. So there's a lot of work. That's the goal, but I can't guarantee that.

- Okay. And you said that was different. Is that what Julia was alluding to regarding incentives? Or was that something different?

- I don't know exactly what-

- Can you hear me? You can't hear me very well.

- I can hear you. I wasn't referring to anything specific.

- Okay.

- Melissa mentioned something, an example of something, if that is specific. In my mind, another example is doing some kind of policy or credit like stormwater credit, that actually. Other things that aren't grants or money at the door more. Yeah.

- Okay. Great. great. Thank you, both.

- All right. Any other questions or updates? All right. Hearing none, we will entertain a motion or adjournment. Is there a motion to adjourn?

- Not yet. Melissa, I just thought of something else.

- Oh, one more. Encore.

- I sent you that email today about the Green Bay Conservation Partners is gonna be doing an Aldo Leopold event at the Brown County Central Library. I think they do this every year.

- Yes.

- And it's in February. It would be a really great opportunity for the Sustainability Commission to have a table set up at that event to promote some of the sustainability initiatives that are going on. Like no more May is gonna be coming around before you know it. If we still have the survey going, encouraging people to take the Clean Energy Plan survey. So I will bring that up at the next meeting and have a specific time. But it's like a two-hour window. It's on a Saturday. It's at the Brown County Library. And there'll be all different kinds of conservation groups there. It will be a really good opportunity for Sustainability Commission. And I know Corey was working with Alder Steuer on seeing if we could get some funding for the commission to have a banner and to be able to do event like that.

- Yeah, yeah. Didn't you attend last year with the rain barrels?

- I did,

- Yes. And I was attending with the Green Bay Conservation Corps promoting that. So it was great. I mean, it was a big turnout, and a lot of like-minded folks in one area, which is nice. So yeah, that would be a good opportunity.

- Did you say they have a date for that one already?

- Yes, they do. Let me find it. It is February 25th, 2:00 until 4:00 PM at the Central Library.

- Thank you.

- All right. Any other questions, updates, discussion? All right. Hearing none, we will entertain a motion to adjourn. First by Ned. Is there a second? By John. All those in favor, say aye.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- All those opposed, say nay. All right, we are adjourned. Have a happy holidays, everybody. Stay safe in the next couple days.