

CITY OF MENASHA
Sustainability Board
Council Chambers, City Hall – 140 Main Street
November 15, 2011
MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Linda Stoll.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

SUSTAINABILITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Van de Sand, Chris Bohne, Kathy Thunes, Linda Stoll, Roger Kanitz, Ed Kassel

SUSTAINABILITY BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Becky Bauer

OTHERS PRESENT: CDD Keil, PP Homan, Mayor Merkes, Christopher Evenson

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM OF CONCERN ON THIS AGENDA

1. No one spoke.

D. MINUTES TO APPROVE

1. Motion made by Paul Van de Sand and seconded by Kathy Thunes to approve the minutes of September 20, 2011. The motion carried.

E. COMMUNICATIONS

1. **Sustainable Communities Network meeting minutes**

Kathy Thunes and Linda Stoll explained that the network formed out of a quarterly Natural Step group, and now meets quarterly to learn about what other communities are doing in regards to sustainability. They referred to the minutes from the network's October meeting and gave a brief overview of the general discussion at that meeting.

Paul Van de Sand noticed some inaccuracies pertaining to the City of Menasha portion of the meeting notes.

F. REPORTS

1. **"River-Gen 1: Using Fox River flow for Off-Grid local EV charge stations – A Demonstration Project" (Ed Kassel)**

Ed Kassel described the contents of his white paper on using river flow to generate off-grid electricity to power electrical vehicles. He wants to conceptualize this idea in Menasha.

The committee further discussed the following:

- what the next steps were in the process;
- designating a lead entity to move the project forward;
- identifying an appropriate location;
- securing partners;
- potential funding sources;
- grant writing assistance;
- cost for equipment;
- feasibility of the project; and
- other communities/businesses doing similar initiatives.

Ed Kassel indicated he was looking for an endorsement from the board prior to moving any

further on the project.

Motion by Linda Stoll, second by Chris Bohne to endorse the concept and encourage Ed Kassel and Paul Van de Sand to look into it further. Motion carried.

2. **Energy Use by the City**

Paul Van de Sand stated the report will be done in December. He will be prepared to give a presentation on it in January, and would like to invite council, department heads and staff to see the results of the baseline report.

G. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Endorsement of Regional Sustainability Grant**

Kathy Thunes indicated this grant had already been submitted, thus there was no longer a need for the Board to endorse the grant application.

2. **Accept letter of resignation from Sadie Schroeder**

Committee members discussed keeping Sadie Schroeder involved in sustainability initiatives within the city, such as local food and the farmers market, despite her no longer serving on the board.

Motion by Linda Stoll, second by Kathy Thunes to accept with regret Sadie Schroeder's resignation and encourage her future engagement with the Sustainability Board.

H. DISCUSSION

1. **Update on ECWRPC HUD Grant Application (Kathy Thunes)**

Kathy Thunes indicated that the grant program has been eliminated for future funding cycles, but believes funds still exist for this cycle. She indicated ECWRPC has submitted the grant and is waiting to hear back from HUD.

Linda Stoll stated that she hoped to hear something relatively soon, if the review period was similar to last year's.

2. **Potential Earth Week Activities**

Kathy Thunes indicated that there were many entities involved in the upcoming Earth Week events and she is coordinating with them. Earth Day is April 22 in 2012.

The board discussed whether the City could partner with the Town on an earth week e-waste collection effort.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Paul Van de Sand and seconded by Kathy Thunes to adjourn at 7:45 PM. The motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kara Homan, PP.