

**CITY OF MENASHA
Sustainability Board
Council Chambers, City Hall – 140 Main Street
January 17, 2012
DRAFT MINUTES**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Linda Stoll.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

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

SUSTAINABILITY BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ed Kassel

SUSTAINABILITY BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Becky Bauer

OTHERS PRESENT: CDD Keil, PP Homan, Mayor Merkes.

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

1. No one spoke.

D. MINUTES TO APPROVE

1. **December 12, 2011.**

The Board discussed several changes that were needed for the minutes of the December 12, 2011 meeting. The following amendments were presented:

- B. Roll Call: Noting Becky Bauer as absent
- F.2. Correcting the spelling of Chris Bohne's last name (from Boehne to Bohne) & clarifying that Paul Vand de Sand would like to convert all municipal facilities to energy units per square foot.

Motion made by Paul Van de Sand and seconded by Chris Bohne to approve the minutes of December 20, 2011, as amended. The motion carried.

E. COMMUNICATIONS

Linda Stoll reported that she had received a letter of resignation from Becky Bauer, citing that she can no longer commit the time to attend meetings due to other obligations.

The Board thanked Becky for her service and accepted her resignation. Linda Stoll indicated she would like to find a replacement from within the Menasha School District.

- 1.

Community sustainability committee gathering

Roger Kanitz described the activities being done by the City of Neenah and Town of Greenville's sustainability boards, and how they report them to the community. The committee discussed the potential to produce something like this for the City of Menasha.

Roger Kanitz also described the efforts of ECOS-Fox Valley to update their website and allow for sustainability information to be stored and shared.

Kathy Thunes stated that the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's HUD Sustainable Communities grant application was not successful, but communities

will receive preferred sustainability status. This means that communities within the East Central region will receive an additional 2 points when applying for HUD discretionary grants.

Roger Kanitz indicated the next quarterly meeting of the sustainability committee group will be at 3pm on April 19th.

F. REPORTS

Kathy Thunes stated that she has started work on solid waste. She has a meeting on February 10th with DPW Radtke and Jennifer with Winnebago County to discuss how increasing recycling can reduce garbage, and lesson the city's tipping fees.

The Board discussed how recycling and other items can be featured in a regular sustainability article for the City Newsletter. Topics could include:

- Donating damaged clothing to Goodwill; this will save the city money for garbage fees and create jobs at Goodwill.
- Discussing the bike trail project on Hwy 47. Discuss how you can save money and get healthy by biking.

G. ACTION ITEMS

1. **NONE**

H. DISCUSSION

1. **Earth Day recycling event update**

Roger Kanitz stated that the Town of Menasha has agreed to partner with the City for an e-recycling event on April 28, 8am to Noon, with one location at the Town Hall, and another at Menasha Utilities. They will be using a company called Recycle that Stuff, who will run it for free, although several volunteers from the Board will be needed.

The board discussed ways to promote the event, such as the City newsletter, Menasha Utility billings, and through the Fox Cities Earth Week Event Poster.

2. **Review of Wildpoldsried, Germany Energy Independence Initiative**

The Board discussed how Wildpoldsried is an inspiration for proactive and financially sound municipal sustainability initiatives.

3. **Reviewing city's small scale wind ordinance**

CDD Keil reviewed the City's existing small scale wind ordinance, and stated that he had received an inquiry from an interested homeowner wanting small wind generators.

The Board discussed other model ordinances that could be reviewed for best practices, such as the Focus on Energy model ordinance, and the City of West Allis.

4. **Wisconsin Sustainability Intern Program**

Kathy Thunes provided an overview of the Internship Program. It is through the UW System and provides communities with qualified college students to assist with sustainability initiatives. The program application is due at the end of January, and has a cost associated with it.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Paul Van de Sand and seconded by Kathy Thunes to adjourn at 8:15 PM. The motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kara Homan, PP.