

**CITY OF MENASHA
SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
Common Council Chambers
140 Main Street, Menasha**

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Linda Stoll at 1:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

Present: Roger Kanitz, Ed Kassel, Tami Lee, Linda Stoll, Kathy Thunes

Also Present: Donald Merkes, Mill Menting

Excused: Melissa Rollins-Jump

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANY MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

(five (5) minute time limit for each person)

No one spoke

D. MINUTES TO APPROVE

1. Sustainability Board minutes, 4/23/2015

Motion made by Kathy Thunes and seconded by Tami Lee to approve the minutes of the April 23rd, 2015 meeting. Motion carried.

E. COMMUNICATIONS

Spring Electronics Recycling Event.

Total amount of recycling down in City and up in Town. We collected more reusable items for St. Vincent than in previous events. Handouts were well received. We didn't have as many volunteers due to illness so a count of the total number of cars was not conducted.

F. REPORTS

None

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. City of Menasha Energy Usage

Bill Menting from Menasha Utilities updated the board regarding a planned LED street lighting conversion project that the common council had earlier appropriated funding from a We Energy refund received in 2014. Lights are on order for a pilot example and will be installed on Seventh Street near Melissa Street for public and common council comments. After comments are received common council common council approval would be required to continue the conversion in the remainder of the City over a three year time frame.

Smith Park has a new LED acorn fixture up, the remainder of the fixtures will be replaced with matching fixtures.

2. River-Gen Project

There was substantial interest from UW Fox to partner on the project. The board needs to set goals and milestones and identify obstacles.

3. Waste Management

Board members reviewed recycling and refuse tonnage from 2014 & 2015 it doesn't appear that there is a pattern from year to year.

The Joint Review Board has endorsed recycling funding reductions at the state level. If the proposal stays in the budget this will result in a \$4 million reduction in funding state wide. It could impact local recycling programs including Menasha.

The board inquired if there is any indication of refuse and recycling tipping fees changing in 2016.

The board is interested in collecting data on recycling and refuse services in neighboring communities and cost including: brush pickup, recycling drop off center, large item pickup.

Tami will investigate if we could offer compost bins at the farm market to help reduce kitchen waste going into the refuse stream. Other communities have offered low cost compost bins for purchase at markets.

4. Livable Communities

SCN studied forestry ordinances throughout the Fox Cities, ordinances had multiple differences and many were out of date. Not all communities have a 5 year management plan or sustainability ordinances, ordinances could be updated to address invasive species. Board would be supportive of helping craft ordinance allowing additional plantings just outside of ROW on corridors that do not have sufficient space on terrace and application of grant to provide funding.

5. Sustainable Communities Network Projects

Sustainability indicators may be added to the life study which is in process.

6. Menasha Farm Fresh Market

Market is open.

7. 2016-2020 CIP

Board members discussed if they would like to recommend items further discussion at next meeting

8. Website

Members discussed listing accomplishments on new website as well as FAQ both City and other service providers, current sustainability projects, UW Extension sustainability links, were to recycle pharmaceuticals.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Kathy Thunes and seconded by Tami Lee to adjourn at 3:08 p.m.

Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by DJM