

**CITY OF MENASHA
SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
Common Council Chambers
140 Main Street, Menasha
Tuesday, May 21, 2013
Minutes**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Linda Stoll at 6:05 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL/EXCUSED ABSENCES

Present: Danielle Handler, Roger Kanitz, Linda Stoll, Kathy Thunes, Paul Van de Sand

Also Present: Mayor Merkes, Connie Kanitz

Excused: Ed Kassel

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

Connie Kanitz, 516 Riverway, Menasha

- Pleased that the park staff is mowing around the Smith Park effigy mounds to minimize compaction and preserve for future
- Questions regarding pesticide and herbicide use in city parks and alternatives considering proximity to waterways and potential contamination.

D. MINUTES TO APPROVE

1. Motion by Roger Kanitz, second by Kathy Thunes to approve the minutes of April 25, 2013.
Motion carries

E. Reports

1. No reports

F. DISCUSSION

1. Sustainability Board Annual Report and future work plan
 - Board members are working to create a listing of accomplishments, in process projects, and goals to present to the community and common council.
2. City of Menasha Energy Usage
 - The city will be receiving a focus grant for the city hall air conditioner project. Energy usage at the library has been steady for several years while other buildings have been decreasing, the mayor wishes to look at the library building as a priority for efficiency projects in the future being a large energy consumption building.
3. Waste Management
 - Danielle presented her study and survey regarding recycling in the City of Menasha at the state capitol on April 17th as part of posters in the rotunda. The display attracted much attention at the event and many were interested in the potential for change in the city. Found that lower number of pickups seemed to coincide with lower collection tonnage when compared to other communities. Survey participants wanted more frequent recycling pickups. Board members recommended that we look at regionalization potential as well as increasing cost of 96 gallon refuse containers to cover cost of collection to increase recycling participation rates.
 - Danielle received a grant for a composting demonstration project aimed at reducing solid waste in Menasha. The project would include a neighborhood composting site and educational opportunities for residents to learn about composting and its benefits.
4. Follow up to City of Menasha recycling event April 27th
 - The joint recycling event was successful recycling 11,242lbs of electronics.
 - The board discussed additional recycling opportunities that may be able to be combined with future events.
5. Farm Market Update

- The Menasha Farm Fresh Market begins June 13th 2-6PM. The majority of the spaces are full for the season including new salmon, meat, cheese, & bread vendors. There will also be a rain barrel vendor and worm castings vendor.

6. River-Gen Update

- Paul has been working with UW regarding a partnership with the engineering department to put together an independent study course in the fall of 2013 for students to work with the city on this project.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Paul Van de Sand and seconded by Kathy Thunes to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.
Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Mayor Merkes