



MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: January 21, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: North Conference Room, City Hall

CHAIR: Brian Larson

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Brian Graff, David Hon, Brian Larson, Crispin Pierce (remote access), Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Steve Terwilliger, Tyrel Zich

Also in attendance: City Council member Jeremy Gragert; Scott Allen, Community Development Director, Patrick Ritchie, City Sustainability Intern; Eric Crawford, Shane Felske and Timur Shevket, RWE Renewables Americas; Jen Monroe, JONAH; Erin Trowbridge, FourPeas Consulting; and members of the public, Gary Pesicka and Eleanor Wolf

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Chair Larson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approve December 17, 2019 Meetings Minutes

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the December 17, 2019 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Graff and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: RWE Wind Farm Proposal Presentation

The RWE Renewables team introduced themselves. Mr. Crawford presented the proposed wind farm project in southeastern Eau Claire County and answered questions from the committee.

The project would be a \$200 million investment into the local economy. There would be 40 to 70 turbines to power approximately 60,000 homes. Power purchase agreements are being sought. About 150 construction jobs are expected and they will maintain their own service employees over the 30-year useful life. RWE is seeking land easements from property owners currently. They usually need less than a third of an acre to locate a turbine and associated development. Construction could begin in 2023 if approvals occur.

A public house is slated for February 22nd at the Florian Gardens so the community can ask questions and learn more. Details will be passed along. A project website called <https://eauclairewind.com/> has also been developed.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Updated Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Discussion

Mr. Noel presented the REAP plan, REAP Executive Summary, Net Zero Energy Building Guide and Electric Vehicle Roadmap. The commissioners were supportive of the plans and excited to move into the approval stage.

Ms. Rykal stated a tiny URL should be made for the executive summary so people don't have to type in a long internet address.

Mr. Noel will collect any remaining feedback in finalizing the plans. SAC will have their public hearing on the plans at their next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5: REAP Campaign Discussion

Mr. Noel highlighted the program grant application that was made on January 19th to the Eau Claire Community Foundation.

Ms. Rykal emphasized the need to have strong community education to help people better understand the issue and what can be done. Developing a communicating plan would be a good next step.

Erin Trowbridge with FourPeas Consulting stated she was interested in helping the committee.

Mr. Schumacher stated there could be storytelling around climate change. He will look into the True North event for October.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Work Plan 2020 Development

Mr. Noel went over the draft work plan. SAC’s additional feedback was positive. He will formalize the work plan for the February 18th meeting and set up the public hearing.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Brief Updates

The committee was interested in having the City provide VW comments on electric vehicles charging infrastructure.

Mr. Terwilliger mentioned there will be a presentation at the Home and Garden Show about preventing ice dams.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Future Agenda Items & Meeting Dates

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Chair Larson adjourned the committee at 5:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Brian Graff, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
February 18, 2020	3:30 p.m.	City Hall, North Conf. Rm.



Meeting Agenda
 February 18, 2020

MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: February 18, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: North Conference Room, City Hall

CHAIR: Brian Larson

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Brian Graff, David Hon, Brian Larson, Crispin Pierce, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Steve Terwilliger, Dody Wubker, Tyrel Zich

Also in attendance: Patrick Ritchie, City Sustainability Intern; Gary Pesicka and other members of the public

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Chair Larson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approve January 21, 2020 Meetings Minutes

Mr. Graff moved to approve the January 21, 2020 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Zich and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) & Sub-Action Plans Public Hearing & Approval

Mr. Noel highlighted the changes with the REAP, the Net Zero Energy Building Guide, Solar-Ready Guide and Electric Vehicle (EV) Roadmap. He stated the City’s Plan Commission recommended approval to City Council on Monday, February 17th.

The committee reviewed and discussed possible renewable energy totals by 2030.

The public hearing was held and no one came forward to speak.

Mr. Hon moved to recommend approval of the REAP and its sub-action plans to the City Council. Mr. Zich seconded and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Work Plan 2020 Public Hearing & Approval

The work plan was presented and the committee decided to make this year’s theme “Low Carbon City” since it will tie well into the REAP purpose.

There were general questions about specific actions under various tasks. Mr. Noel stated, for example, that if the action says “event”, it will be defined later when more information is known on what to do.

After discussion, the committee amended the work plan to included in the Net Zero Energy Guide task to include a support role or advisor role on future City projects like the Sonnentag Center, Transit Center, etc. that are seeking clean energy.

Mr. Terwilliger moved to recommend approval of the items to the City Council. Ms. Wubker seconded and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Program & Campaign Discussion

The committee worked off a communications strategy template developed by staff and initiated filled in with ideas by Mr. Pierce.

Communication questions concerned:

- What is our purpose?
-Reduce carbon, good quality of life, keep dollars local, public health, etc.
- What are the positive outcomes we would like to see?
-Education, stronger action in carbon reductions and renewable energy increases, job creation, etc.
- Which audiences should be reached?
- Homeowners, students, business owners, trades, landlords, low-income, all peoples, commuters, etc.
- What sort of messaging do audiences need?
- Enhance our economy, ensures generational success and must work as a community team.
- What our resources? Existing, limitations and leverage points?
-Staff and financial limitations. Volunteers, like-institutional 2050 goals and partnerships a plus.
- What may be barriers to overcome or participate?
-Including under represented populations and the need to repeat the message ongoing.
- How do we want to connect with media?
- TV, radio, social media, etc. but also work with community influencers to help social norm action.

The committee agreed to meet again in March to refine details. They also directed to discuss with Erin Trowbridge of FourPeas Consulting ways to engage the creative class about telling stories on climate change.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Brief Updates

Mr. Noel noted the comment period on VW settlement grant money for electric vehicle charging infrastructure has been extended by the State.

He also stated the City has been contacted by Beaver Creek Reserve on an Earth Week campaign. The committee expressed support and directed to try to partner with them on future REAP activities.

Ms. Wubker announced this would be her last meeting. With her term ending in March, the committee expressed appreciation for her 6 years of service.

Mr. Noel noted Mr. Larson and Mr. Pierce will also have to conclude their service in March per the City's two-term limit policy. He asked the committee to help spread the word for future member recruitment.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Future Agenda Items & Meeting Dates

Mr. Graff stated the committee should hold chair, vice chair and secretary elections in March since Mr. Larson is the current chair and Mr. Pierce is the current vice chair.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Chair Larson adjourned the committee at 5:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Brian Graff, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
March 17, 2020	3:30 p.m.	City Hall, North Conf. Rm.



City of Eau Claire
SUSTAINABILITY
 Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda
 March 17, 2020

MISSION:

"To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community."

DATE: March 17, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, City Hall

CHAIR: Brian Larson

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present:

Also in attendance:

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approve February 18, 2020 Meetings Minutes

AGENDA ITEM #3: Position Elections – 5 mins.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Recognize Outgoing Members & Recruitment – 5 mins.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Work Plan 2020 Review – 5 mins.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Electric Vehicle Experience and EV Chargers – 10 mins.

AGENDA ITEM #7: EarthWeek Event – 10 mins.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Renewable Energy Action Plan & Sub-Action Plans Outreach & Events – 45 mins. to 1 hr.

- General Outreach
- Engaging the Creative Class
- Net Zero Energy Building Education Event

AGENDA ITEM #9: Brief Updates – 5 mins.

AGENDA ITEM #10: Future Agenda Items & Meeting Dates

AGENDA ITEM #11: Adjournment

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

TIME:

LOCATION:

April 21, 2020

3:30 p.m.

City Hall, North Conf. Rm.

Cancelled due to COVID-19 Pandemic

March 12, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that members of the City of Eau Claire's Sustainability Advisory Committee will meet at 3:30 p.m. on March 17, 2020 in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 203 S. Farwell Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

The Committee will discuss the items on the attached agenda.

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Subchapter V of Chapter 19 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Notice is hereby given that members of the Eau Claire City Council may be present at the foregoing meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. This may constitute a meeting of the Eau Claire City Council pursuant to State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Bd., 173 Wis.2d 553, 494 N.W.2d 408 (1993) and must be noticed as such, although the Council will not take any formal action at this meeting.

In order to accommodate the participation of persons with special needs at this meeting, the City will provide the services of a sign language interpreter or make other reasonable accommodations on request. To make such a request, please notify the City at 715-839-4902 at least two days prior to the meeting.

Cancelled due to COVID-19 Pandemic

April 16, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Eau Claire's Sustainability Advisory Committee 3:30 p.m. April 21, 2020 meeting in the North Conference Room, City Hall, 203 S. Farwell Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701 has been cancelled.

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Subchapter V of Chapter 19 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Notice is hereby given that members of the Eau Claire City Council may be present at the foregoing meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. This may constitute a meeting of the Eau Claire City Council pursuant to State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Bd., 173 Wis.2d 553, 494 N.W.2d 408 (1993) and must be noticed as such, although the Council will not take any formal action at this meeting.

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Meeting Agenda
May 19, 2020

MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: May 19, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: TBD

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg, Steve Terwilliger, Tyrel Zich

Also in attendance: Patrick Ritchie, City Sustainability Intern

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Noel called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. He welcomed new members Mr. Faulkner and Mr. Swichtenberg and thanked outgoing members Mr. Larson, Mr. Pierce, and Ms. Wubker for their service.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approve February 18, 2020 Meetings Minutes

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the February 18, 2020 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Schumacher and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Position Elections

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve Mr. Faulkner as chair, Mr. Hon as vice chair, and Mr. Schumacher as secretary. Seconded by Mr. Faulkner and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Updates

- **COVID-19 Impact**

There are reports that global air pollution has decreased due to stay-at-home orders. Deaths related to air pollution may be less this year since there is less fossil fuel consumption.

- **Biodiversity Grants**

Mr. Noel stated the City partnered with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) and UWEC BluGold Foundation on a Wildlife Conservation Society grant. They are seeking to plant native plantings at BCR, the future Sonnentag Centre and adjacent City parklands. Another climate, health and equity grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is being considered to fund the biodiversity index in the committee’s work plan.

- **Electric Vehicles**

Mr. Zich stated Xcel Energy has filed new residential and commercial charging rates at the Public Service Commission. He explained charging an EV costs about \$21 for 1,167 miles on Xcel’s proposed residential program (EVR-1) assuming 100% of charging is off-peak. This would be about half the cost to charge on Xcel’s standard residential flat rate (Rg-1). To participate in the program the customer must use Xcel Energy’s Level 2 charging equipment because the equipment is being used to measure and bill for consumption. The customer can pre-pay for the charging equipment and installation cost (about \$720 plus small monthly data management charge) or pay over time (\$17 per month). Even after the \$17 monthly charger cost, it still would cost less to charge an EV on Xcel’s program compared to the standard rate (\$55 compared to \$58) and customers receive a charger with a maintenance and replacement plan for 10 years. He noted that charging costs get considerably more complex for non-residential customers due to demand charges, but line extension credits for customers are being proposed.

Mr. Noel stated the City has purchased 3 dual-port Level 2 chargers and asked for the committee's feedback on pricing to charge users. Members agreed some cost recovery is needed on the units and electricity, but to keep the fees low such as a \$1 service fee and \$1.50 per hour. This way, people will still be drawn to use the chargers.

- **Biodegradable Shopping Bags**

The City and Downtown Eau Claire Inc. (DECI) sponsored green biodegradable retail shopping bags for patrons of downtown stores. The bags come from Earthbound Environmental and was a part of a larger Earth Day week that got delayed due to COVID-19.

- **Work Plan**

Members reviewed the current work plan and tasks assigned.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Campaign

Mr. Noel stated the Eau Claire Community Foundation grant to fund the low-carbon campaign did not come through so outreach efforts will have to be scaled back. After discussion, the committee decided it would still be worth doing the campaign or to partner with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) and/or Focus on Energy (FOE) but scale the program based on the resources available. A leadership training for group facilitators was still considered a good idea. Promotional videos sharing about FOE's programs and a small city Energy Star building challenge could be good options to keep considering. It was unclear for the time being on how to utilize the consultant that offered to help leverage the creative class. Mr. Noel will reach out to BCR on a potential partnership and FOE.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Net Zero Energy Building Event

Due to the impact of COVID-19 this June event has been postponed. After consulting with the State, it needs to be held before October 1st since it is grant funded. Members agreed it is best to try to meet in-person for greater business to building owner connections. Members stated it may be good to hold the event at Chippewa Valley Technical College's Energy Education Center.

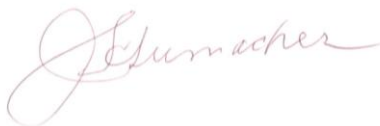
AGENDA ITEM #7: Future Agenda Items & Meeting Dates

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Noel adjourned the committee at 4:59 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
June 16, 2020	3:30 p.m.	TBD



MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: June 16, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg, Steve Terwilliger, Tyrel Zich

Also in attendance: Scott Allen, Community Development Director; Crispin Pierce and Erin Trowbridge

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Updates

- **UWEC Climate Task Force**

A UW-Eau Claire Climate Task Force of staff, faculty and students has been meeting to develop a recommendation report to the Chancellor to meet the campus’ 2050 carbon neutrality goal. The City served on their steering committee. Four sub-committees were created covering renewables, energy efficiency, community and curriculum. One favored renewable energy approach is to use geothermal heating and cooling. The process will continue over the summer and the final report will help the university implement their goal and strategic plan.

- **Organic Waste Stream Reduction**

Current services provide curbside pickup of compostables for residential and commercial. Committee members discussed the lack of demand in greater community composting opportunities as related to their work plan activities, and decided to give the task less priority for the time being.

- **Transit Development Plan (TDP)**

The 5-year TDP has been delayed due to the pandemic. Preliminary results based on the consultant’s analysis of routes and boardings, indicate that micro transit would not be a viable option with current demand. It would require significantly more vehicles to implement than what is used now. On-demand micro-transit might only be cost-effective for underserved areas and Sunday service.

- **Compact Development Study**

Mr. Noel stated the compact development/density is moving ahead with the State Smart Transportation Initiative. Data is being assembled currently but the final product will inform where greater urban density can be located to reduce vehicles miles traveled (VMT). VMT is a larger contributor of greenhouse gas emissions for the community. The study may help inform future land use policy and the update to the Comprehensive Plan.

- **Municipal Strategy**

Mr. Noel displayed a municipal carbon emissions graph. The emerging strategy is to double down on fleet and building fossil fuel reduction rather than focus on grid-tied interventions. Solar may still work for some buildings. Investments will be graded using a calculator to determine what offers the greatest returns for carbon and cost.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approve March 19, 2020 Meetings Minutes

Several minor corrections were noted. Mr. Schumacher moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Hon and the motion carried. (Item was moved from #2 on the agenda due to lack of quorum early in the meeting.)

AGENDA ITEM #4: Biodiversity Grants

Mr. Noel stated the City partnered with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability to apply for a Robert Wood

Johnson Foundation climate, health and equity grant that would cover planning related deliverables such as a biodiversity assessment, strategic plan, natural asset map, and index. The Wildlife Conservation Society grant has been submitted by Beaver Creek Reserve. Award news is anticipated in the fall with projects to start near 2021.

Members were excited about how the planning projects could better help manage natural resources, reveal their intrinsic economic value, improve protection policy and educate the community.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Electric Vehicle (EV) Promotions

Mr. Zich stated Xcel Energy is expecting approval from the Public Service Commission soon for their new EV residential and fleet rates. Xcel has already created promotional materials on their website with an EV Advisor to help find the EV models that best fit peoples' lifestyles and a calculator to estimate potential savings and environmental benefits. They have created a full-scaled showroom garage display, and both Xcel and Eau Claire Energy Cooperative have created modular charging display units. He said they plan to advertise with bill inserts, call center information and with other printed materials.

Committee members discussed working with Xcel and promotional efforts listed in the City's EV Roadmap. It was decided to add user resources to the City's website and to direct the public to Xcel's resources. Media engagement efforts using social media, interactive webinars, TV and radio will be considered. An EV sign could be posted at the Galloway Parking Ramp when the level 2 chargers are installed. The pandemic currently makes in-person activities hard to do at dealerships or with ride-n-drive events. A car show could feature EVs at a later time.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Campaign

In light of COVID-19 impacts, an alternative plan and timeline was presented to focus the campaign at the household/individual level rather than with forming teams. Low carbon workbooks would still be used and awards would still be given. No partnerships have emerged but can continue to be pursued. There may be some cross-over with UWEC's Climate Task Force efforts.

Mr. Schumacher suggested to name the campaign Air Oh Claire! Erin Trowbridge shared the importance of having climate change conversations over the family dinner table to normalize the issue and suggested how-to graphics will help the public. Naming and other marketing efforts will be worked on in July. The program will start in fall.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Net Zero Energy Building Event

The committee agreed to instead hold this event as a recorded instructional video and then to do a live panel discussion webinar. Questions could be posted on the YouTube video so they may be addressed at the webinar.

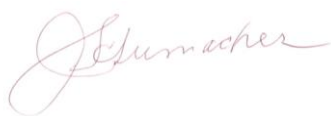
AGENDA ITEM #8: Future Agenda Items & Meeting Dates

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Mr. Faulkner adjourned the committee at 4:51 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
July 21, 2020	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: July 28, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg, Tyrel Zich

Others in attendance: Erik Keisler, Executive Director of Beaver Creek Reserve

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Mr. Faulkner called roll and a member quorum was present. He welcomed new member Gary Pesicka.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of June 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Graff moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Hon and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

Mr. Faulkner stated the comment period is for items not on the agenda. No one from the public spoke.

AGENDA ITEMS #5: Public Discussions

Item #5A Reevaluate Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Public Campaign

Erik Keisler, Executive Director with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) shared about their second successful EarthWeek Challenge during the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Sponsors helped finance the program and winner prizes. Actions were met to be not expensive so everybody felt empowered. Contestants took photos of actions to prove they did them and uploaded them on a software platform. For example, taking a photo at a Chamber green business scored well.

Mr. Keisler stated he would like to tie the chamber and other partners in more to promote a circular economy and have greater impact. He was open to working with the City and the committee to enhance the challenge, perhaps using the low-carbon diet workbook to extend the challenge into more of a lifestyle and behavioral change campaign.

Members reviewed the points assigned to various actions in the EarthWeek Challenge list. Members agreed to partner with BCR and to work this year on developing a joint strategy. Adding others to the partnership may be good like the Chamber, schools, colleges and businesses. The idea of a planning task force was suggested.

Mr. Keisler and Mr. Noel will discuss what might make the most sense in planning. It was suggested additionally that perhaps a fall teaser could also be created (maybe something on yard waste, recycling and composting) to get people going on actions. A number of apps were suggested to gamify actions.

Mr. Noel shared about La Crosse’s Hometown Mayor’s Energy Challenge, which provided \$500 incentives to 100 homes that upgraded energy saving projects using the Focus on Energy’s Whole Homes Energy Assessment

program. He submitted a REAP campaign budget to run a similar energy efficiency program in Eau Claire. He shared lessons learned from the La Crosse program and Focus on Energy is eager to work with the city, if funding is able to be secured in October or November. He mentioned the pandemic may make obtaining new funding difficult, but a signature program offering like this would help meet needs as more people are working and learning from home with COVID-19; and are becoming increasingly aware of energy issues, air leaks and comfort deficiencies. A program like this would also tackle many REAP action plan strategies.

There was no public input provided.

Members agreed to delay the campaign this year, supported a similar program as La Crosse had created, and to refocus for next year working with partners like BCR.

Item #5B Net Zero Energy Building Guide Instructional Videos

Mr. Noel stated he secured a video camera from the library and presented an outline of the instructional video. The City's architectural consultant will also help walk viewers through the guide and how to use it. Content may also be featured on a upcoming September 17th DNR Sustainable Strategies webinar.

Members made some suggestions such as defining net zero energy buildings, why they are important, how money can be saved over time on energy bills, and to feature some local examples. A second video featuring the local examples may be needed in order to break up the content and keep the videos not too long.

There was no public input provided.

No action was taken.

Item #5C Draft Comment Letter to State Climate Change Task Force

Mr. Noel presented a draft comment letter to members for feedback. Comments are due July 31st and the letter will come from the City Manager. Any input or advice given by the committee will be subject to the final discretion of the manager since it is in his name.

Members suggested prioritizing the long list of actions that the State could consider and provided some additional comments like eliminating coal plants by 2040.

There was no public input provided.

No action was taken.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Other Business Agenda Items

Item #6A REAP Density Study

Progress has been made with the State Smart Transportation Initiative on the planning study for densification to lower greenhouse gases (GHG) and improve alternative transportation. The infill index scores properties with opportunity to maximize land value investment, accessibility and GHGs. The final product will help inform where infill development could be prioritized and serve as a guide for future growth areas currently outside of city limits.

No additional feedback was provided by the committee members.

Item #6B REAP Calculators

Mr. Noel presented a service contract to develop municipality and community sustainability calculation tools in light of the City's carbon neutral goals. For example, they might improve staff's development review ability on real estate projects to mitigate more GHGs.

After answering questions, no additional feedback from the committee was provided.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Discussion and Direction
7A. Future Agenda Items
None.

7B. Announcements
None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment
Mr. Graff moved to adjourn the committee at 5:17 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
August 18, 2020	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: August 18, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Steve Terwilliger, Anthony Swichtenberg, Tyrel Zich

Others in attendance: None

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Mr. Faulkner called roll and the required member quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of July 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Graff moved to approve the July minutes. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

Mr. Faulkner stated the comment period is for items not on the agenda. No one from the public spoke.

AGENDA ITEMS #5: Public Discussions

5A. Sustainability Awards

Mr. Noel described the annual program and highlighted the different achievement categories. After the official launch, potential winners can be nominated by the general public or by committee members. Usually up to 10 winners are selected by the committee and a formal recognition ceremony is led by the chair and vice chair.

No one spoke from the public.

Members were in favor of having the awards in 2020 and holding the ceremony virtually. Reaching out to the media was seen as important with press releases. They agreed to launch the program after Labor Day and vote on winners at the October 20th meeting. The virtual award ceremony date will be decided later but could occur as part of a regular scheduled committee meeting. Wood plaques would be mailed to winners or dropped off.

5B. Sustainability Series Videos

Mr. Noel stated there are no updates on the net zero energy building video project, but in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it may be beneficial to create a video series to help the public know what they can do to act. He went over a number of possible topics and stated Xcel Energy is interested in partnering with the City.

No one from the public spoke.

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the “Sustainability Series”, to partner with Xcel and to utilize a video production company if resources can be secured. Seconded by Mr. Hon and the motion carried.

5C. 2021 Work Plan Development

Mr. Noel reviewed the current 2020 work plan progress and a spreadsheet of the Renewable Energy Action Plan’s

(REAP) 68 strategies for potential consideration. He noted the Electric Vehicle Roadmap and other official City-approved plans can be drawn upon as well to firm up a draft work plan.

Members discussed that it may be useful to tie 2021 projects to the major annual goals in the REAP. For example, an energy efficiency incentive program could help lower community electricity and natural gas use meeting related goals. Local air quality concern was discussed as a possible focus area. No specific project was decided, however.

No public input was provided and no action was taken. Mr. Noel will provide a draft for reaction at a future meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Other Business Agenda Items

6A. Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Public Campaign Update

There was no update trying to meet with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) on next steps. The committee may decide to create a sub-committee to work with BCR and staff if necessary.

6B. Biodiversity Index & Natural Asset Map

Mr. Noel said it is not clear if a large grant will be awarded to fund the work. As a contingency, he suggested to dial back the project and focus on the natural assets map. A highly visual map of the area's biodiversity could raise awareness and appreciation for protecting nature and reducing carbon emissions. He showed an example from San Francisco with smaller inset maps displaying native soils, migration paths and original waterways. The map could be similar to what the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee did for the Chippewa Valley Bike Map.

Members agreed a map could be a very useful approach if the grant is not obtained. They recommended if needed to seek possible design partners like UWEC and sponsors to fund it. Special sites or priceless "gem" locations could be on the map with accompanying signs at actual locations. The map could be interactive web-based and tie into related apps like iNaturalist. Thematic areas could be covered such native vs. invasive species, soils, health and wellness, outdoor social spaces, slowing life down, trails and alternative transportation, etc.

6C. Other Project & Community Updates

Mr. Terwilliger stated the Eau Claire Area School District's two large solar arrays are moving ahead. The bid was to Eagle Point Solar and construction at both high schools could begin in September. Fundraising is still in progress.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Discussion and Direction

7A. Future Agenda Items

None.

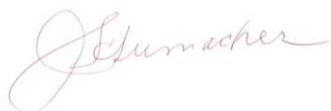
7B. Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Graff moved to adjourn the committee at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Schumacher seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
September 15, 2020	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting

September 10, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Eau Claire's Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting at 3:30 p.m. on September 15, 2020 in the North Conference Room, City Hall, 203 S. Farwell Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701, has been cancelled for lack of business items.

For further information, please contact Associate Planner, Ned Noel at 715-839-4914.

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Subchapter V of Chapter 19 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Notice is hereby given that members of the Eau Claire City Council may be present at the foregoing meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility. This may constitute a meeting of the Eau Claire City Council pursuant to State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Bd., 173 Wis.2d 553, 494 N.W.2d 408 (1993) and must be noticed as such, although the Council will not take any formal action at this meeting.

In order to accommodate the participation of persons with special needs at this meeting, the City will provide the services of a sign language interpreter or make other reasonable accommodations on request. To make such a request, please notify the City at 715-839-4902 at least two days prior to the meeting.



MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: October 21, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Gary Pesicka, Jim Schumacher, Steve Terwilliger, Anthony Swichtenberg, Tyrel Zich

Others in attendance: None

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Mr. Faulkner called roll and the required member quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of August 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the August minutes. Seconded by Mr. Schumacher and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

Mr. Faulkner stated the open comment period is for items not on the agenda. No one from the public spoke.

AGENDA ITEMS #5: Public Discussions

5A. Approve Sustainability Awards

Mr. Noel stated there were 9 submissions. Members reviewed and discussed entries. Winners selected were: Cascades Tissue Group - Eau Claire for Energy: Renewables, Efficiency or Conservation; SHIFT Cyclery & Coffee Bar for Transportation Innovations; Eau Claire Public Schools Foundation for Energy: Renewables, Efficiency or Conservation; Memorial High School Eco-Warriors for Student Leadership Award; Lauren Becker for Student Leadership Award; Tom Wagener, for Sustainable City Staff; Crispin Pierce for Environmental Education; Jim Boulter for Environmental Education; and Karen Mumford for Environmental Education. Awards will be manufactured and ready for the November 18th virtual presentation. Winners will be invited to attend and plaques will be delivered.

Mr. Faulkner moved to approve the winner list. Seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and the motion carried. No one from the public spoke.

5B. Sustainability Series Videos

Mr. Noel stated the net zero energy building user video has been completed. It was recently released on the City’s social media sites and will be shared to specific groups like the Chippewa Valley Home Builder’s Association. Xcel Energy is working on proposals from Volume One. Members discussed potential topics such as net zero energy project tours, energy retrofitting existing homes, electric vehicle education and local programs. Mr. Zich stated Xcel is releasing residential and commercial programs before the end of 2020. No one from the public spoke on the item.

5C. Draft 2021 Work Plan Development

Mr. Noel presented a draft work plan for discussion purposes. Progress was reviewed on current tasks and

feedback given by members. He noted a possible Dept. of Energy grant may help advance several initiatives such as with electric vehicles, net zero energy buildings, and the Energy Future Collaborative with Xcel Energy. Some items will continue on such as work with the emission and energy calculators. New ideas such as leveraging the Farm Tech Days, increasing composting downtown and native landscaping were suggested. Mr. Noel will firm up the work plan for a possible vote in November. No public input was provided and no action was taken.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Other Business Agenda Items

6A. Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Public Campaign Update

The City's proposed budget does not include the energy efficiency program and complimentary REAP marketing support. There was no update trying to meet with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR) on next steps. Mr. Noel will reach out again.

6B. Biodiversity Index & Natural Asset Map Update

Mr. Noel stated the City was unsuccessful in obtaining the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation climate and equity grant. Mr. Faulkner stated he engaged some UWEC colleagues sharing an example biodiversity map, but there has been no movement.

6C. Other Project & Community Updates

- **Solar On Eau Claire Schools**

Mr. Terwilliger stated the Eau Claire Area School District's two large solar arrays are moving ahead. North High is complete and work on Memorial is progressing.

- **Electric Vehicle Charging Station**

Mr. Noel stated work is progressing on the City's 180kW fast charging electric vehicle station at the Forest St. municipal parking lot. Project partners include the City, Xcel Energy, ZEF Energy and Solar Forma Design. ZEF will be providing the charging unit via a Dept. of Energy grant, Solar Forma Design will be handing the solar canopy, and Xcel will be providing make-ready EV infrastructure/funding and its Renewable Connect rate so the station is 100% powered by renewable electricity. Installation work should begin in the middle of November.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Discussion and Direction

7A. Future Agenda Items

None.

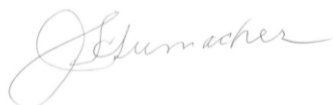
7B. Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn at 4:57 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
November 18, 2020	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Agenda
November 18, 2020

MISSION:

“To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community.”

DATE: November 18, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg, Steve Terwilliger, Tyrel Zich

Others in attendance: Lauren Becker, James Boulter, Barry Bremness, Emily Fletcher, Sarah French, Kyran Hamill, Scott Kmetz, Tess Morgan, Karen Mumford, Crispin Pierce, Aaron Salmon, Tom Wagener

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Mr. Faulkner called roll and the required member quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of October 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the October minutes. Seconded by Mr. Schumacher and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

Mr. Faulkner stated the open comment period is for items not on the agenda. No one from the public spoke.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Sustainability Awards Ceremony

Mr. Faulkner and Mr. Hon issued the 2020 awards to winners in the following categories:

- Cascades Tissue Group - Eau Claire for Energy: Renewables, Efficiency or Conservation
- SHIFT Cyclery & Coffee Bar for Transportation Innovations
- Eau Claire Public Schools Foundation for Energy: Renewables, Efficiency or Conservation
- Memorial High School Eco-Warriors for Student Leadership Award
- Lauren Becker for Student Leadership Award
- Tom Wagener, for Sustainable City Staff
- Crispin Pierce for Environmental Education
- Jim Boulter for Environmental Education
- Karen Mumford for Environmental Education.

The winners were congratulated. Award plaques will be delivered to each winner.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Public Discussion Items

6A. UWEC’ Sustainability & Climate Action Task Force Presentation

As its Co-chairs, Karen Mumford and Lauren Becker presented recommendations from the UWEC Sustainability and Climate Action Task Force. The City was a part of the effort sharing community perspective. The purpose is to develop a comprehensive plan to incorporate stewardship, sustainability and resiliency into all facets of life on its campuses and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

They asked for committee input after sharing key draft recommendations concerning cutting carbon, community engagement, curriculum, and campus decision-making.

Members shared it would be good to have a dedicated sustainability professional coordinator on staff as well as an office focused on it so decision-making could improve and assist the Chancellor. Curriculum development for students and community engagement/education with the City and other partners on mutual projects was voiced as important. Using more electric vehicles in the campus fleet was suggested as well as the energy master plan idea will be critical for success. Working with partners such as RENEW Wisconsin and Midwest Renewable Energy Association was also suggested.

Members thanked Ms. Becker and Ms. Mumford for their presentation and said to stay in touch.

6B. Draft 2021 Work Plan Development

Members reviewed the draft and provided input. They added to consider an electric vehicle parking ordinance and to explore funding from the Amazon Climate Fund. Piloting air source heat pumps was another idea to incorporate into the net zero energy building pursuit and advocating for durable and sustainable building/urban planning practices.

6C. Comprehensive Plan 5-Year Update

Members did not have anything specific to add more into the Sustainability Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan since the Renewable Energy Action Plan, Electric Vehicle Roadmap, Solar Ready Guide and Net Zero Energy Building Guide were all completed in 2020.

AGENDA ITEM #7: Other Business Agenda Items

7A. 2020 Work Plan Tasks

No updates of significance were provided.

7B. Other Project & Community Updates

Mr. Terwilliger stated the former Mt. Washington Sanitorium has a new owner and he may be open to adding solar and electric vehicle charging. He also stated a new southwest dog park/boat launch in Shawtown neighborhood was opened and may be a great location to place a future biodiversity educational sign and map.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Discussion and Direction

8A. Future Agenda Items

None.

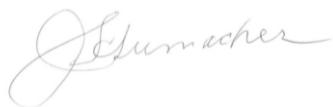
8B. Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn at 5:11 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
December 16, 2020	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



City of Eau Claire
SUSTAINABILITY
Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda
December 16, 2020

MISSION:

"To assure the common good through services essential for a safe, sustainable, engaged and healthy community."

DATE: December 16, 2020

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ryan Petrie, Associate Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg, Tyrel Zich, Steve Terwilliger

Others in attendance: Sue Waits

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Mr. Faulkner called roll and the required member quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of November 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Schumacher moved to approve the November minutes. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

Mr. Faulkner stated the open comment period is for items not on the agenda. No one from the public spoke.

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Approve the 2021 Work Plan

Mr. Noel presented the updated 2021 Work Plan for the Committee. They reviewed the draft mock-up of the work plan again. They agreed that the proposed projects should be carried along to City Council for their consideration. He noted that an intern from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire will be coming on board in early 2021 to assist with sustainability activities and the committee.

Sue Waits with Joining Our Neighbors Advancing Hope (JONAH), noted that her group was trying to expand the public's knowledge about composting and reducing single use containers. They are interested in teaming up with the City and the committee, perhaps helping downtown businesses as a start.

There was discussion about composting to reduce waste in light of the expanding landfill and out of town waste brought in. Mr. Faulkner asked about transportation waste handling and its carbon footprint of the multiple hauling companies within the community. Mr. Noel stated it is fairly low and there is currently an open market for up to 8 different haulers. A change in the work plan was added in regards to composting, landfill, and haulers under the organic waste stream diversion item. It was decided to hold this discussion again in the future.

Ms. Rykal noted that the University of Wisconsin – Stout eliminated Roundup as weed control and may be something good to add to the work plan under the item Native Landscaping and Trail Planting. Investigation of alternative weed control methods was added.

Mr. Hon motioned to approve the revised work plan as so noted. Seconded by Mr. Graff and motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5B: Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign with Beaver Creek Reserve

Mr. Noel discussed the Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP) Campaign with Beaver Creek Reserve. They reached out to staff and the committee to work together for their 2021 Earth Day/Week challenge. The idea is that a REAP campaign could supplement their program and use 50 low carbon diet workbooks afterwards in teams to sustain the challenge. He noted that the new intern could support this program.

AGENDA ITEM #6A: Land Use Calculators

Mr. Noel shared that the land use calculator is within the work plan for 2021 as well as 2020. The calculator would be used as a tool for proposed development to understand its greenhouse gas contributions to the city’s inventory. This tool will assist staff, Plan Commission and committee members, and developers to figure out the climate impact of the proposed project and land use. In addition, it will educate the public in the future growth of the city and development.

A discussion ensued about if this calculator would be required and the missing background algorithms on the spreadsheet. Mr. Noel noted that the equations are yet to be completed. Most developments are within the planned development ordinance to allow for flexibility and the use could be triggered with that code, or another example could be in regards to Tax Increment Districts when asking for financial assistance. He noted that this item would be reviewed by the Plan Commission and brought back again to the committee with the algorithms.

AGENDA ITEM #6B: Community Updates

None.

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

None.

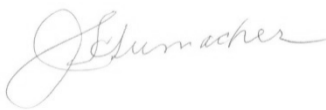
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Pesicka moved to adjourn at 4:46 p.m. Mr. Graff seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
January 19, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting