



MISSION:

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

DATE: January 19, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

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

Others in attendance: Kimberlee Brueggeman, Austen Fairbanks, Amy Kalmon, Brad Michalak, Diana Witcher

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

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

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

Mr. Terwilliger moved to approve the December minutes. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

AGENDA ITEM #5: Election of Officers

For the role of secretary, Mr. Schumacher was recommended by Mr. Terwilliger. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried. For role of vice chair, Mr. Hon was recommended by Mr. Terwilliger. Seconded by Mr. Schumacher and the motion carried. For the role of chair, Mr. Faulkner was recommended by Mr. Pesicka. Seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #6A: Work Plan Review

Mr. Noel presented the updated 2021 Work Plan after City Council approved it on January 12th. Members discussed the projects and recognized the need for financial support. They recommended future budget requests to help support the Renewable Energy Action Plan campaign and similar initiatives that work to implement the plan’s goals and projects. They also discussed applying for grants such as at the State and Federal levels, along with pursuing non-profit funding at the McKnight Foundation and elsewhere. Annual or every other year operating budget support would also meet the needs of updating carbon emission and energy inventories.

AGENDA ITEM #6B: Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign with Beaver Creek Reserve (BCR)

Mr. Noel provided updates on the partnership with BCR. The library will promote and circulate the low carbon workbooks. A brochure and City website page will be made to explain the program with resources.

Members provided input. They thought it would be good to run the campaign from May to August, to provide a group leader training that is recorded for future viewing, and to request a small budget from Community Development funds. Prizes to participate could be given to local charities, Chamber Bucks or tree plantings in parks. It was suggested to possibly work with Volume One to share about the program and recognize winners.

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Net Zero Energy Buildings & Planning

Mr. Noel stated the City, Xcel Energy and an interested builder are looking into options for an all-electric residential neighborhood. He presented various technologies they are considering under a possible grant from the Department of Energy called Connected Communities. A geothermal heating and cooling district could offset higher upfront costs and shave winter peaking load concerns. Split fuel furnaces could also be considered. Homes would be highly energy efficient as a baseline. Research still needs to be done on cost effectiveness of the measures and what regulatory approvals may be needed.

Members expressed support in the partnership and working at scale in this fashion. They suggested to utilize geothermal across the development as much as possible to avoid or mitigation fossil fuel consumption. They also said education for contractors, future homebuyers and the general public will be important too see how the project may work. Using the City’s existing Net Zero Energy Building Guide will be helpful. Pre-wiring for electric vehicles and solar was also stated as critical.

Ms. Witcher from the public stated concerns with home affordability with all the technologies being considered.

AGENDA ITEM #7B: Community Updates

Mr. Terwilliger stated the two 126 kW solar arrays are complete at both public high schools. The fundraising campaign was successful to leverage the Couillard Solar Foundation panel donation. A case study will be provided soon by the Midwest Renewable Energy Association.

Mr. Noel stated the City will be applying for the State Office of Energy Innovation funding to offset the wellfield geothermal system costs at the library renovation project. Construction should begin this spring on the overall project and features a rooftop addition and new civic plaza. The building will be made solar-ready to add panels in the future.

AGENDA ITEM #8A: Future Agenda Items

None.

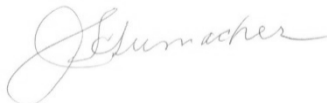
AGENDA ITEM #8B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Mr. Terwilliger moved to adjourn at 4:52 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
February 16, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



MISSION:

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

DATE: February 16, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

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

Others in attendance: Kimberlee Brueggeman, Austen Fairbanks

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 January 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A. Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign

Mr. Graff and staff had another meeting with Beaver Creek Reserve. They were supportive of adding points into their April Earth Week Challenge to promote the campaign. Members commented on a pamphlet draft:

- Use engaging call to action such as “Lose 5000 pounds of carbon, win prizes, and help Eau Claire”
- Images should have consistent font and adjust wording around the air balloon image
- A training is best during Earth Week or right afterwards
- Plug Focus on Energy resources
- Figure out a way to receive team sign up contact information
- Create a prize for the largest team and the largest overall score
- Attribute the workbook author
- Do not focus on a large goal for the first year.

Staff will revise the pamphlet based on the feedback provided.

AGENDA ITEM #5B. Net Zero Energy (NZE) Building Guide Outreach

Mr. Noel stated the NZE Guide is finalized with updates and it is time promote it more.

Members said it would be good to ask the Chippewa Valley Home Builders Association to promote the guide and instructional video in their seasonal magazine and/or member email communications. Other suggestions were to use City email new blasts, social media, and update the website. Letters could be sent out to builders or other design professionals. Engaging the Plan Commission back on the subject would be good in conjunction with the land use carbon calculator. The commission will review the tool on March 1st.

Other Business

AGENDA ITEM #6A. Work Plan Review

State Clean Energy Plan

Mr. Zich (representing Xcel Energy) and Mr. Noel have been attending State Clean Energy Plan stakeholder advisory team meetings. The meetings are to provide input on the plan which will be completed this spring or early summer. The goal is for the State of Wisconsin to fulfil the carbon reduction goals of the 2015 Paris Climate Accord and to have 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050. Further updates will be provided to the committee.

New Climate Group

The City has been meeting with the new Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) to advocate for climate change solutions for local communities. The group’s principles and a recent PSC docket comment example advocating for more Focus on Energy funding were reviewed. Cities and counties will be able to join the group officially in spring. Eau Claire was invited early on due to the leadership shown on clean energy and climate goals.

Connected Communities

Mr. Noel stated the partnership working on the Department of Energy Connected Communities concept decided it was premature to apply by the March 3rd grant deadline. More time is needed to investigate if an all-electric geothermal district subdivision is feasible and to allow for regulatory approvals. The partnership remains committed to the vision and updates will be provided in time.

Biodiversity Planning

Mr. Noel said the biodiversity map and index remain at a stand-still until more resources can be secured. Mr. Terwilliger suggested UWEC graphic art students in the fall semester might be willing to help on the map.

AGENDA ITEM #6B. Community Updates

Mr. Terwilliger shared the case study by the Midwest Renewable Energy Association on the two 126 kW solar arrays at both public high schools. He said it was a gratifying project to work on and see accomplished. Educational opportunities and small grants will also help students learn about solar technology.

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

None.

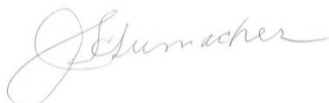
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

Mr. Terwilliger’s last meeting will be in March as he has reached the two-term limit. Mr. Zich and Mr. Graff have one more term of eligibility and have agreed to stay on another three years. Thus, only one new member is needed and recruitment has been ongoing.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Terwilliger moved to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. Mr. Hon seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
March 16, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: March 16, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

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

Others in attendance: Heather Berlinski, Kimberlee Brueggeman, Austen Fairbanks, Amy Kalmon, Thad Nation, Eric Udelhofen, 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 February 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A. Curbside Plastic Film Recovery Inquiry

Representatives from SC Johnson (SCJ) Heather Berlinski and Thad Nation shared information on their curbside pilots in other parts of the country. SCJ has a corporate sustainability initiative to reduce plastic waste and use more post-consumer plastics in their packaging. They do not buy the recycled film direct but indirectly from companies that make the products they use. They report these circular economies have been successful in Europe and Canada already and they would like to grow it in Wisconsin being their home state. They see the Eau Claire marketplace as having good potential with its various haulers. The committee was supportive of adding this to their work plan.

AGENDA ITEM #5B. Solar Developer Inquiry

The City and County have been approached by OneEnergy Renewables to consider partnering on a 5 megawatt shared solar array. The Renewable Energy Action Plan has several references to consider a shared solar project to help meet clean energy goals for local governments, institutions and the community.

Eric Udelhofen with OneEnergy Renewables stated they have a purchase option on some land to build a project. They have done similar projects with the City of Madison and Dane County. There are various ways to set up a project with power purchased agreements or land purchases, etc.

Mr. Tyrel stated Xcel Energy's community solar program is fully subscribed and a new policy framework/rate would have to be created by Xcel if they are interested. If the City or County contributed to the land purchase that may benefit a project.

The committee was generally supportive and to continue to explore the concept.

Other Business
AGENDA ITEM #6A. Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition
Mr. Noel shared about the new coalition forming and that City Council would need to approve a resolution to join formally. The committee was supportive of the coalition.

AGENDA ITEM #6B. Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign
Mr. Noel stated staff have been updating the pamphlet and creating campaign ads for Volume One and the Eau Claire County Recycler that will go out to every resident in the county. The City is sponsoring Beaver Creek Reserve’s Earth Week Challenge and continue to partner with them. The campaign will need to start in mid-May now due to the library moving to a temporary location. Workbook checkouts will start in early May. This will give about two weeks for people to organize teams after the Earth Week Challenge.

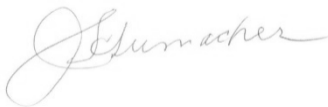
AGENDA ITEM #6C. Land Use, Solar and Building Calculators
Mr. Noel stated staff met with the Plan Commission on March 1st to get their input on the carbon land use calculator. Overall there was support for the tool but commissioners wanted more time to play with the tool and allow staff to test it out on real projects. The consultant also developed a solar and energy use intensity (EUI) calculator, building emissions comparison calculator, and carbon cost calculator. These were reviewed by the committee.

AGENDA ITEM #6D. Community Updates
Mr. Pesicka reached out to State Senator Jeff Smith’s office to interface with him on what the State Climate Task Force Committee is working on and to set up a future meeting. The committee was supportive of connecting with the state senator.

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items
None.

AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements
None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment
Mr. Hon moved to adjourn at 4:50 p.m. Mr. Graff seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
April 20, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: April 20, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Douglas Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Amy Kalmon, Gary Pesicka, Jim Schumacher

Others in attendance: Heather Berlinski, Austen Fairbanks, Matt Michels, Lynn Morgan, Thad Nation

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: Recognition of Steve Terwilliger

Members voiced appreciation to Mr. Terwilliger for his 6 years of service on the committee, along with all the sustainability work that he accomplished in the community. The meeting was dedicated to Mr. Terwilliger.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Approval of March 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #5: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #6A. Curbside Plastic Film Recycling Next Steps

The City Council was supportive of the committee’s amended work plan to include exploring the pilot with SC Johnson. The committee recommended to initiate a meeting with licensed haulers in the city to gauge interest and answer questions.

Lynn Morgan, with Waste Management, appreciated the chance to dialogue about the pilot. She expressed concerns that plastic film can make other recycling costlier if it contaminates the material recovery facility’s processing.

AGENDA ITEM #6B. Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign & Beaver Creek Reserve’s Earth Week Challenge

Information was shared about the cross-promotion efforts with Beaver Creek Reserve on their Earth Week Challenge and the City’s REAP Campaign.

Three households have already reached out to the City to participate in the REAP Campaign. Marketing materials have been developed and the website is almost complete. The library will be placing holds on workbooks checked-out until they re-open at their temporary location. It may be in early May but in time for the start of the campaign.

Other Business

AGENDA ITEM #7A. Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition

City Council approved the resolution to join formally. Other cities and counties have been joining and a recruitment meeting for more local governments is planned in late April. More information can be found at the coalition's new website: <https://wlgcc.org/>.

AGENDA ITEM #7B. State Senator Smith Meeting & State Clean Energy Plan Update

Members Pesicka and Graff, and staff met with State Senator Jeff Smith and his chief of staff. An Eau Claire County Board member and a representative from JONAH (Joining our neighbors advancing hope) were also present. The senator was appreciative of the committee's work and wanted to be added to the meeting packet list serve.

A few outcomes from the first meeting were to meet more often, seek to build more local bipartisan support on issues such as clean energy/job creation, rural broadband access, and supporting each other's work on climate change and the Governor's proposed budget.

Members will try to attend the virtual climate and environment budget listening session coming up on April 21st at 6 p.m.

The State's Clean Energy Plan draft was not available to discuss at the time of the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #7C. Net Zero Energy Building Article

Staff has been working with the Chippewa Valley Home Builders Association on a magazine article to share about the City's Net Zero Energy Guide. Builders are interested in the topic and are planning for a conference speaker later this year. Mr. Hon volunteered to help edit the article.

AGENDA ITEM #7D. Community Updates

Mr. Fairbanks stated distribution of 14,000 green biodegradable shopping bags has begun downtown.

AGENDA ITEM #8A: Future Agenda Items

None.

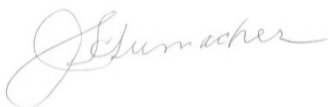
AGENDA ITEM #8B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Hon seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
May 18, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: May 18, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Douglas Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

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

Others in attendance: Missy Christopherson, Lauren Gaffron, Jamie Larson, Maddie Loeffler, Tony Palese, Bradley Sabbar, Jeff Smith, David Soll

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 April 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Discussion with State Senator Jeff Smith (31st Dist.)

Senator Jeff Smith stated there are a number of clean energy and sustainability related items in the Governor’s budget but the Joint Finance Committee rejected it. He is serving on the Governor’s Climate Change Task Force. This stakeholder group was created in 2019 to produce a recommendation report. This report has largely influenced the Governor’s budget. Examples include technical grants for communities to create climate action plans, \$4 ml. for clean energy grant research, double the Focus on Energy program to \$2.4 ml. Sen. Smith introduced bills to phase out styro-foam and restore the ability for communities to restrict plastic bags. He is also working on PFAS bills and testing for water wells. He was concerned about the higher electric vehicle registration fees and supports President Biden’s plan for growing the clean energy economy.

The committee discussed the above and thanked Senator Smith for meeting with them. There was agreement to stay in touch on mutual issues of concern.

AGENDA ITEM #5B: UW-EC Research - Off-Campus Student Housing Energy Efficiency Report

Assistant Professor Mr. Soll, of History and Public Health and Environmental Studies, summarized the college student research. Ms. Christopherson, Ms. Graffon and Mr. Sabbar shared results of student surveys of off-campus housing. About 2/3 of students live off-campus. Many live in older housing. Landlords don’t have incentive to upgrade these units to improve energy use and efficiency. Students don’t know about energy costs upfront and can cause monthly bill payment hardships. Students don’t have any leverage to request improvements or sometimes have the ability to control a thermostat. The college researchers recommended that more education and transparency is needed with a possible database having energy score information.

Committee members discussed options to consider such as using a college rating app, improved education and data transparency, and incentives to yield more reinvestment into rentals such as a revolving loan fund.

AGENDA ITEM #5C: Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Program Discussion

The committee discussed briefly that the college off-campus research could plug well into a future program. Last year, a budget request for \$50,000 of incentives to stack onto Focus on Energy and Xcel Energy incentives was not funded due to Covid-19. The proposal was modeled off La Crosse’s successful program which provided \$500 incentives to the first 100 homes that signed up for an energy assessment. There is also a new energy efficiency naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH) program in Dane County. The administrator is interested in Eau Claire. The committee agreed to invite Elevate the program administrator to learn more at their June meeting.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A: Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign

Mr. Noel stated the campaign started on May 15th and the website is live. News station WQOW ran a story on Saturday, May 15th. He encourage members to spread the word about the campaign.

AGENDA ITEM #6B: Community Updates

- The City submitted with the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition a comment letter on the Public Service Commission’s Docket 5-EI-158 (the Roadmap to Zero Carbon). The three main priorities listed were:
 - 1) Create/manage a Clean Energy Roadmap for WI so stakeholders can work together to achieve results.
 - 2) Expand access to renewable energy, focusing on those groups marginalized in the fossil fuel economy.
 - 3) Facilitate a transition to the Utility of the Future allowing utilities to innovate.
- A new Northwoods Solar Group Buy is covering Eau Claire and adjacent counties.
- Fire station #8’s 27kW solar array is set to go live later this month.
- The Chippewa Valley Home Builders Association Parade of Home Issue - Net Zero Energy Building Guide article will be included in 8,000 print copies. An NZE Home is being virtually featured in the Menominee area.
- The City is working with SC Johnson to invite the waste and recycling curbside haulers to a meeting to learn more about a possible plastic film recovery program.
- Over 900 people volunteered for the Amazing Eau Claire Cleanup to improve the local environment.
- Staff are beginning to start our 2019-2020 greenhouse gas inventory.

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

None.

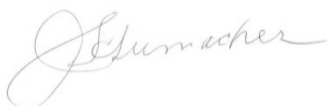
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

Ms. Kalmon stated Joining Our Neighbors Advancing Hope (JONAH) has been working with a Milwaukee plastics-free coalition. They have gained access to their education resources to use locally for school curriculum, etc.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Pesicka moved to adjourn at 4:56 p.m. Mr. Hon seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
June 15, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
 June 15, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: June 15, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: David Hon

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

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

Others in attendance: Abby Corso, Lauren Gaffron, Jamie Larson, Claire Schaefer Oleksiak, David Soll

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

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

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Mr. Hon called roll and the required member count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of May 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

Mr. Hon opened the comment period for items not on the agenda. No one from the public spoke.

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Discussion on Energy Efficiency/Renewables Housing Program Example

Abby Corso with Elevate and Claire Schaefer Oleksiak with Sustain Dane presented a Dane County/City of Madison program that upgrades unsubsidized “naturally occurring affordable housing” (NOAH) with clean energy improvements. NOAH is defined at the 80% or less Area Median Income level. The Efficiency Navigator Program guides the multi-family building owner through a process completing an energy assessment, obtaining construction bids, financing, and implementing the project. The model addresses barriers such providing customer support to overcome lack of awareness and funding access to complete upgrades. A \$250,000 state grant is being utilized to upgrade 11-17 buildings on Madison’s north side. Preliminary data analysis suggests the Eau Claire market may have over 5,000 units that could benefit. Buildings range from detached single family to apartments. They suggested to begin by building stakeholder support, and if there is buy-in, focus a pilot program based on those needs. The start-up timeline could take 6 months to design a program and for fundraising.

The committee discussed their support of the program in concept. It could also meet college student housing needs and energy burden problems that were address at the committee’s May meeting.

Ms. Rykal motioned to have the committee explore next steps and to share the presentation with the City’s Housing Opportunities Commission for their possible support. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5B: Transit Center Review

Mr. Noel presented the site and building plans for the City’s proposed 6-story transit center. The foundation size is roughly 33,000 s.f. The upper 4-6 levels will be affordable housing. Negotiations with the developer are ongoing. Residential parking will be on the 3rd floor parking garage level and on the sloped floor between the 2nd

and 3rd floors. City Transit will be on ground level with retail spaces. Bicycle storage will be for both the residential tenants and the public. The master architectural firm on the project stated the building will only use electricity. No natural gas is being proposed. Thus, the City-only transit center and ramp projected greenhouse gas (GHG) contribution is at 343.7 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per year. This represents a 148.4 CO₂e increase over the existing transit facility (195.3 metric tons). The residential GHG calculation will follow once that part of the project is ready and unit electricity consumption data can be determined.

The committee was supportive of no natural gas and discussed clean energy and electric vehicle options. Rooftop solar would be best supplied by the residential developer on the top floor. Future bus charging will likely be at the transit garage but it was not ruled out in case it is needed during bus dwell times.

Mr. Pesicka moved to recommend at a minimum, electric vehicle charging is 20% for both public and residential parking. (This percent is based on Xcel Energy's EV marketplace projections by 2030). Based on the stall numbers in the ramp that would mean 10 EV charging stalls for the public (or 5 dual plug charger units) and 17 for the apartments). He also recommended installing conduit for EV-readiness for all apartments. Seconded by Mr. Zich and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5C: Electric Vehicle Education Event Discussion

The committee discussed holding an education event downtown in the fall to promote electrification of vehicles. Members suggested working with Downtown Eau Claire Inc. staff to organize the event. EV drivers and dealers could be involved with electric utilities describing their charging programs. Food trucks and other support activities could be added. Mr. Graff volunteered to assist.

Mr. Graff motioned to approve holding an EV promotion event. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A: Future Meetings

Due to a member conflict, the committee decided to hold fall semester meetings during the third Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. Members also agreed in July to begin meeting in-person with a virtual option.

AGENDA ITEM #6B: Community Updates

Mr. Noel stated a number of waste haulers attended a curbside plastic film collection information meeting with SC Johnson on June 3rd. SCJ is evaluating next what end-markets may exist in the area to supply the recycled film.

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

None.

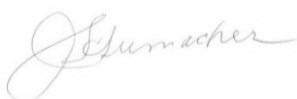
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

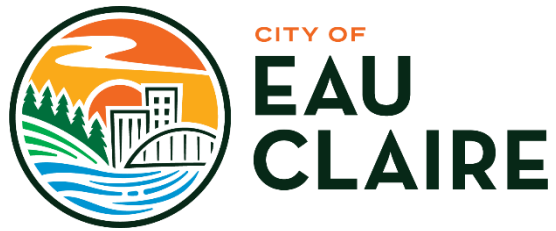
Mr. Graff moved to adjourn at 5:02 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
July 20, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



The City of Eau Claire's Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting at 3:30 p.m. on July 20, 2021 is cancelled for lack of business items.

Posted: July 15, 2021



MISSION:

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

DATE: August 18, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Doug Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Doug Faulkner, Brian Graff, Amy Kalmon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg, Tyrel Zich

Others in attendance: Billie Hufford, Matt Schaefer, Regan Watts

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 count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of June 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Pesicka moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Ms. Kalmon and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Energy Efficiency/Renewables Housing Program Update

The City’s Housing Opportunities Commission was supportive of the same presentation given to the committee on a naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH) Efficiency Navigator Program in Dane County.

The committee thought the program would be useful to improve housing stock and reduce carbon emissions in the city. It would align well with the City’s Renewable Energy Action Plan to address clean energy and equity concerns. They generated a possible list of stakeholders to engage with that included the public health department, housing division, UWEC, realtor association, home builder’s association, building owners, Focus on Energy, and financial institutions.

Elevate and Sustain Dane will be submitting a scope of work for the stakeholder and program design process.

AGENDA ITEM #5B Electric Vehicle Education Event Discussion

The committee discussed holding an EV event downtown on Block 7 late September or early October. Saturday morning, September 25th was preferred to leverage people attending the farmers market and national drive electric week. Staff will begin contacting dealers and other stakeholders to arrange the event.

Matt Schaefer shared his EV experience in the city and as a business traveler.

AGENDA ITEM #5C Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign Update

The committee decided to end the campaign at the planned date of September 15th. No teams signed up to participate. The committee will reevaluate how to engage the public since the campaign was not successful.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A Water Treatment Plant Micro-Grid Feasibility Study

The City submitted a Public Service Commission of Wisconsin and State Office of Energy Innovation \$30,000 grant to fund a feasibility study at the Water Treatment Plant. The study will examine the pairing of backup generators, battery storage, solar electric, and microgrid controls to optimize plant efficiency, resiliency, and carbon mitigation. If awarded in early September, an RFP will be issued later in 2021 so the study can begin in early 2022.

AGENDA ITEM #6B Electric Vehicle Fast Charger Station Sign

The committee agreed the sign should note the project partnership and how the charger is powered with 100% zero-carbon emitting renewable energy.

AGENDA ITEM #6C: Community Updates

Concerned residents have met with staff regarding tree lost on private and public development. The committee agreed to listen more about the concerns at their September meeting.

Discussion and Direction Items

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

The committee decided to move the September 15th meeting to the 22nd, due to conference scheduling conflict.

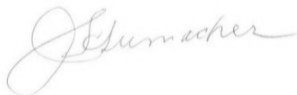
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

Mr. Zich was recognized for his leadership on the committee. After 3 years, Mr. Zich is stepping down.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
September 22, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: September 22, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Doug Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Doug Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, and Jim Schumacher

Others in attendance: Billie Hufford, Regan Watts, Tyrel Zich, Richard Spindler, Eleanor Wolf, and Libby and John Stupak

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 count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of August 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Tree Preservation & Enhancement

Richard Spindler, Eleanor Wolf, and Libby and John Stupak addressed the committee on a desire to improve tree preservation outcomes. Their concerns included loss of carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and more. They recommended the notification process and public input on trees to be removed on City lands be improved. Private tree lost should also be improved when there are development projects such as using an ordinance.

The committee agreed to consider the issue as they draft their 2022 work plan.

AGENDA ITEM #5B Energy Future Collaborative with Xcel Energy Work Plan

The Committee reviewed and supported the projects on the joint work plan between the City and Xcel.

Mr. Pesicka moved to recommend approval to the City Council. Seconded by Mr. Graff and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5C Sustainability Awards Program

The committee agreed to a timeline to kick off the awards and when to review applications. The preferred approach would be to review applications at the November meeting with a virtual awards ceremony at either the December or January meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #5D Energy Efficiency/Renewables Housing Program

No action was taken as no scope of work was ready in time for the meeting. The committee discussed what funding sources may be appropriate such as with grants, American Rescue Plan dollars or with the Capital Improvement Plan. The item will be revisited at the October meeting.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A Electric Vehicle (EV) Education Event

The EV community event will be on September 25th event at CVTC’s Energy Edu. Center. Mr. Schumacher will bring his EV to the event and staff will bring a City hybrid bus and plug-in hybrid SUV.

AGENDA ITEM #6B Renewable Energy Action Plan Campaign

It was reported that no teams signed-up by the deadline of September 15th. The committee officially ended the program.

AGENDA ITEM #6C Empower Eau Claire Participatory Budgeting Program

Mr. Noel introduced the new City program. It will allow residents to propose physical projects to meet community needs. The program will feature sustainability and equity outcomes. The best projects will be voted on to be funded with a budget of \$300,000. He asked the committee to help spread the word.

AGENDA ITEM #6D: Community Updates

The State awarded the City a Water Treatment Plant Micro-Grid Feasibility Study grant. The study will examine solar, batteries, and backup generation to save expense and emissions during operation. It will start in 2022.

Discussion and Direction Items

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

The committee decided to begin drafting their work plan at the October meeting.

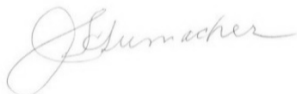
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Hon moved to adjourn at 4:55 p.m. Mr. Schumacher seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
October 20, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



MISSION:

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

DATE: October 20, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Doug Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Doug Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Amy Kalmon, Gary Pesicka, and Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg

Others in attendance: Steve Betchkal, Pamela Brookstein, Abby Corso, Billie Hufford, Jamie Larson, Maddie Loeffler, Judy Schwarmeier, Kate Van Sloten, Regan Watts, Tyrel Zich

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 count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of September 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Discussion on Energy Efficiency/Renewables Housing Program

A scope of work by Elevate staff Pamela Brookstein and Abby Corso was discussed. The committee agreed the next step was to conduct interviews with key stakeholders. The committee further discussed program needs and funding options such as with grants, capital improvement and American Rescue Plan dollars.

Ms. Kalmon motioned to approve the scope of work with Elevate. Seconded by Mr. Graff and the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM #5B Shared Solar

The committee discussed with Xcel Energy’s Tyrel Zich a possible joint solar array as noted in the City’s Renewable Energy Action Plan (REAP). Xcel would need to obtain Public Service Commission approval for this sort of program and a support letter would help their case. Several local governments and institutions are interested in collaborating on a possible venture for construction in the near term.

AGENDA ITEM #5C Draft 2022 Work Plan

Visitors Steve Betchkal, Jamie Larson, Judy Schwarmeier, and Kate Van Sloten spoke on the importance of protecting local bird populations. Education, habitat protection (including reducing pesticides), keeping cats indoors, and bird-friendly building design were recommended to add to the work plan and Comprehensive Plan.

The committee discussed progress for each item in the work plan and provided some guidance. City staff will bring back a revised version for discussion at the committee’s November meeting.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A Electric Vehicle (EV) Education Event & Community Group

The EV event on September 25th at CVTC's Energy Education Center was a success. A Facebook EV driver page was set up so people can join locally.

AGENDA ITEM #6B Sustainability Awards Program

Website materials have been updated and the committee can nominate outstanding examples in the community. Staff will be making a social media announcement. The timeline for these awards has been adjusted back since staff have been busy on the new Empower Eau Claire program. Applications will be now due December 9th with review at the committee's December 15th meeting. The award ceremony will be in January or February, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM #6C Empower Eau Claire Participatory Budgeting Program

Staff is actively recruiting volunteers for this new program. The website has information on how to sign up and to learn about the process. Events to collect the public's project ideas will occur in November and December.

AGENDA ITEM #6D: Community Updates

None.

Discussion and Direction Items

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

None.

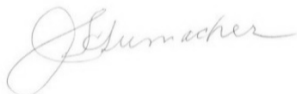
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Hon moved to adjourn at 4:58 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
November 17, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: November 17, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Doug Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Doug Faulkner, Brian Graff, Amy Kalmon, Gary Pesicka, Sarah Rykal, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg

Others in attendance: Scott Allen, David Delfosse, Billie Hufford, Maddie Loeffler, Carrie Martin, Gareth Shambeau, Disa Wahlstrand, Kimera Way, Jake Wrasse

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 count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of October 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Sonnentag Project

Ms. Wahlstrand with Ayres Associates presented the event center project. She stated they are exploring geothermal, solar, and other low-carbon strategies. The reclaimed site will improve water quality with remediating pollutants, adding more treatment of suspended solids and pervious surfaces. Old onsite concrete has been crushed and will be used a basecourse aggregate for parking areas. Shuttles will be used to reduce the need for larger event parking. Tree and native prairie plantings will be installed around the site and along the river. The City will install a new riverfront trail.

Mr. Delfosse with Ayres Associates stated they are pursuing net zero energy and low carbon strategies by building energy modeling. This will determine levels of effective strategies on mechanicals, insulation and renewables. The facility will include considerations of electrification, WELL Building standards and use of LEED guidance for possibly certification. The building will be a high-performance addition to the city along with adding space for temporary emergency shelter. Bird-friendly design was considered in the number of windows, their placement, and glazing.

Commissioners commended building owners and designers for their work on the signature community project.

Mr. Pesicka moved to recommend approval of the project's pursuit of various sustainability features. Seconded by Ms. Kalmon and the motion carried. Mr. Faulkner abstained.

AGENDA ITEM #5B Draft 2022 Work Plan

The committee reviewed the updated draft work plan and made suggestions. It was agreed to use a “low-carbon development” theme for 2022 since much of the work centers on urban system change to reduce emissions. It was agreed to remove the business specific items and consolidate tree and bird-friendly policies into the biodiversity index and policy item. As for waste prevention, it was agreed to focus on organics and remove plastic film recycling with SC Johnson since no end-markets could be found by them. It was agreed to add the possible joint community solar project working with Xcel Energy.

Changes will be made for the December meeting in the committee’s consideration of its work plan approval.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A Energy Efficiency/Renewables Housing Program

Mr. Noel updated the committee on the stakeholder list that Elevate will begin to reach out to after Thanksgiving. He will reach out to the City of Middleton to understand how they are using American Rescue Act funding for their program with Elevate.

AGENDA ITEM #6B Sustainability Awards Program

Members were encouraged to seek more nominations and spread the word about the award. The deadline is December 9th for submissions. Committee review will take place at the December 15th meeting. The award ceremony will be either at the January or February committee meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #6C Renewable Energy Investment Fund

An update was provided that the recently approved capital improvement plan has no funding for 2022-2024 but \$500,000 for years 2025 and 2026. Sustainable funding for the Sonnentag Center remained at \$1.5 million.

AGENDA ITEM #6D: Community Updates

Mr. Noel noted that the new Empower Eau Claire program will be having idea collection events in December.

Discussion and Direction Items

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

The committee will need to decide in December what its schedule will be for 2022.

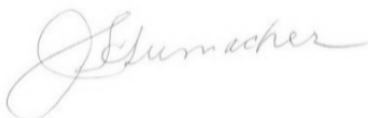
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn at 5:02 p.m. Mr. Pesicka seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
December 15, 2021	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting



Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2021

MISSION:

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

DATE: December 15, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Webex Virtual Public Meeting

CHAIR: Doug Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Doug Faulkner, Brian Graff, David Hon, Monica Obrycki, Gary Pesicka, Jim Schumacher, Anthony Swichtenberg

Others in attendance: Scott Allen, Maddie Loeffler, Regan Watts

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 count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of November 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period

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

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM #5A: Sustainability Awards Selection

The committee discussed the applications that were submitted. The committee was interested in sub-naming the awards for former member and sustainability champion Steve Terwilliger. The committee will consider the name change at a future meeting.

Mr. Hon moved to issue the 2021 awards to the list below. Seconded by Mr. Pesicka and the motion carried.

- Steve & Ellen Terwilliger, Teaching others sustainable living, Environmental Education
- Safe & Simple Organic Lawns, Organic lawn care business, Green Products or Practices
- VER Salon, Sustainable hair care services, Green Products or Practices
- Nicole's Downtown Salon & Spa, Sustainable hair care services, Green Products or Practices
- JONAH Environmental Task Force, Awareness reducing plastics, Waste Reduction, Composting or Recycling
- No Boundaries Tiny Homes Upcycling materials for tiny homes, Green Products or Practices
- Eau Claire Area Master Gardeners, Restoring land with native plants, Exceptional Natural Resources Steward

AGENDA ITEM #5B Draft 2022 Work Plan

The committee reviewed the updated draft work plan and agreed to submit it to City Council for their approval.

Mr. Schumacher moved approve the work plan. Seconded by Mr. Hon and the motion carried.

Other Business Agenda Items

AGENDA ITEM #6A Energy Efficiency/Renewables Housing Program

Mr. Noel stated Elevate has begun stakeholder outreach based on the list that was developed. The committee was interested in what types of funding could be used. The City of Middleton decided to use American Rescue Plan Act funding on a similar program with Elevate and their city auditor found it to be eligible. Grants or capital improvement dollars may be other options to consider.

AGENDA ITEM #6B: Community Updates

The Madison St. Parking Lot downtown superfast electric vehicle charger was installed and will go live later next year. The solar canopy will be installed in spring when the weather is better.

Ms. Obrycki stated Eau Claire Energy Cooperative placed new level 2 electric vehicle chargers at two Princeton Crossing hotels, at Beaver Creek Reserve and at Osseo’s Stony Creek RV Resort.

The City received an A- for its carbon disclosure reporting. Ahern is currently updating carbon inventories for 2019-2020 to determine if greenhouse gases were reduced for the municipality and the city-at-large.

Discussion and Direction Items

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

The committee decided to meet the third Wednesday each month for 2022, unless otherwise changed later.

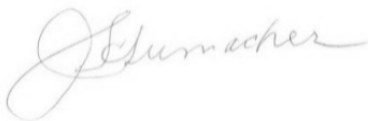
AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

None.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
January 19, 2022	3:30 p.m.	Virtual Meeting