



Meeting Minutes
 September 21, 2022

MISSION:

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

DATE: September 21, 2022

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: City Hall, North Conf. Rm.

CHAIR: Doug Faulkner

RECORDER: Ned Noel, Senior Planner

Members Present: Cameron Bump, Doug Faulkner, Brian Graff, Amy Kalmon, Jael Martinez-Wolf, Gary Pesicka, Jim Schumacher

Others in attendance: Kathy Campbell, Sue Waits, Regan Watts, Eleanor Wolf

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

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

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

Chair Faulkner called roll and the required member count was present for a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of June 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on the Agenda

Kathy Campbell had concerns that the Seven Mile Creek Landfill keeps expanding and little is being done to divert waste. She recommended moving to one hauler to better divert compostables and encouraged neighborhood input on future waste planning.

Eleanor Wolf had concerns about tree lost in the city and not being able to meet the 34% tree cover goal by 2030. She urged the City to consider creating an internal nursery to reduce expenses for trees, to make changes to street and development construction rules, and to apply for U.S. forestry grants.

Public Discussions

Item #5A Compost Presentation (JONAH) & USDA Grant (Eau Claire County)

Sue Waits (JONAH) presented research from a group of UWEC students on composting barriers and opportunities. About 30% of landfill waste is organic from a recent DNR study. Roadblocks addressed were the privatization of landfilling and hauling and lack of awareness on options to compost. Some recommendations were to raise awareness, work with institutions and neighborhood associations, as well as create a community drop off site.

Regan Watts with Eau Claire County presented on a comprehensive compost grant she submitted. The City provided a letter of support. The scope would include: education, compost efforts aimed inside the schools and by extension the parents, processing the cafeteria compost with a hauler, and a community compost bin reduced purchase program. If funded by the USDA, the pilot would run for two years.

Item #5B Alternative Lawns Tour / Interfaith Green Team Progress (JONAH)

Sue Waits shared progress being made with JONAH’s interfaith green teams. They have been meeting once a month together to swap ideas and network. They have been using the City’s low-carbon diet workbooks as one resource.

She also shared that in May and June the Sierra Club will be providing alternative lawn tours.

Other Business Agenda Items

Item #6A Work Plan 2023 Ideas

The committee discussed “No Mow May” options and the possibility of leveraging partnerships such as with the Sierra Club. Signs could be developed to help raise awareness and reduce complaints during the No Mow May period. Members agreed to take the long view that permanent pollinator habitat is preferred.

Mr. Noel will mock up a draft work plan for discussion for SAC member’s October meeting.

Item #6B Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing Energy Efficiency Navigator Update

Regan Watts with Eau Claire County stated a County administrative committee decided to not advance ARPA funding for the program. There were concerns over landlords taking advantage of the funding and possible duplication of weatherization work Western Dairyland (WD) provides. After taking with WD, they are willing to provide referrals of applicants that do not meet their program criteria. For example, this could be an owner-occupied household below area median income but not lower than 60%. Project partners will continue to refine the program to meet what is best for the local community.

Item #6C Greenhouse Gas Inventory Update

The City’s 2019-2020 preliminary inventories have been submitted to CDP. The inventories need minor corrections before scoring is completed, but last year the city received an A-. Data will be released publicly when ready, but indications are that city-wide and municipal emissions have moderately decreased from the 2015 baseline.

Discussion and Direction

AGENDA ITEM #7A: Future Agenda Items

None.

AGENDA ITEM #7B: Announcements

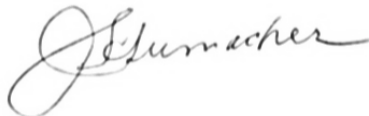
An electric vehicle event hosted by CVTC and Eau Claire Energy Cooperative is occurring on October 1st.

An urban agriculture presentation by an UWEC alum is scheduled for the committee’s October meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Adjournment

Chair Faulkner adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
October 19, 2022	3:30 p.m.	City Hall, N. Conf. Room