



Meeting Minutes
 April 19, 2023

MISSION:

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

DATE: April 19, 2023

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: City Hall, North Conf. Rm.

CHAIR: Brian Graff

RECORDER: Katrina Berg, Asst. Planner

Members Present: Steve Betchkal, Brian Graff, Amy Kalmon, Maddie Loeffler, Gary Pesicka

Absent: Cameron Bump, Monica Obrycki, Jael Martinez-Wolf

Others in attendance: Ned Noel, Katrina Berg (staff), Sue Waits (JONAH),

AGENDA ITEM #1: Call to Order

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

AGENDA ITEM #2: Roll Call

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

AGENDA ITEM #3: Approval of January 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: Recognition of Past Members (Faulkner & Switchenberg)

Plaques were presented to recognize former members but they were not present. They will be delivered by staff.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on the Agenda

Sue Waits reminded the group about the JONAH Earth Event on April 20th.

Public Discussions

AGENDA ITEM: Item #6A Select Sustainability Award Winners

Mr. Noel presented applications received and members discussed them.

Member Kalmon spoke in support of nominee Sue Waits. Member Pesicka made a motion to award Sue Waits with the “Community Leadership and Collaboration Hero” Sustainable Eau Claire Award. Member Betchkal seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Eau Claire Refillery was presented as a nominee. Sue Waits spoke in support. Member Kalmon moved to award The Eau Claire Refillery with the “Waste Reduction, Composting, or Recycling” Sustainable Eau Claire Award. Member Pesicka seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Eau Claire Energy Cooperative was presented as a nominee. Member Loeffler made a motion to award The Eau Claire Energy Cooperative with the “Energy: Renewables, Efficiency, or Conservation” Sustainable Eau Claire Award. Member Kalmon seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Noel requested ideas about how to recognize the individuals awarded and how to continue the program in the future. Generally, the committee was supportive of keeping it the same but undertaking more public outreach. Awardees will be cognized at the next meeting.

Other Business Agenda Items

Item #7A Community Updates

- **Floodplain Update**
Mr. Noel gave an update on working with the DNR to update the Floodplain Ordinance and standard operating procedure. He shared the Wisconsin Quick Guide for Floodplain Management to help members understand the regulations. A future draft ordinance will be reviewed by the committee for input.
- **Zoning Rewrite**
Mr. Noel stated staff has started work with the consultants, Houseal Lavigne and Birchline Planning LLC. The official public process will start in mid-June.
- **EECBG Update**
Staff is working with partner Elevate for an Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant pre-award submission due April 28th. The goal is to target naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH) as recommended in the City’s Renewable Energy Action Plan and the City’s capital improvement fund. The incentives will assist building owners to make housing more energy efficient through upgrades.
- **No Mow May**
Sue Waits and Member Kalmon shared about the No Mow May initiative through the Joining Our Neighborhood Advancing Hope (JONAH) organization. They encouraged the group to spread the word.
- **Earth Day Event**
The JONAH Environmental Task Force in collaboration with Beaver Creek Reserve and the Eau Claire County Office of Recycling and Sustainability will host the Earth Week Event on April 20th. SAC will attend with a table to share what the City is doing.
- **Carbon Calculator**
Ms. Berg shared an update about the utilization of the carbon calculator for new development projects. This includes major site plans and subdivisions. The estimated total for first quarter 2023 was 1,641 metric tons of CO²e.

Discussion and Direction

AGENDA ITEM #8A: Future Agenda Items

- **Virtual Meetings**
Staff asked for member input on preferences about meeting virtually, hybrid, or just in-person with no change. Generally, members were in favor of a hybrid option. More information will be provided when the ordinance allows the change and then the committee will have to amend its bylaws.

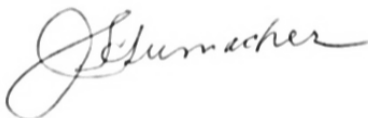
AGENDA ITEM #8B: Announcements

Member Betchkal encouraged the committee to consider the use of the phrase “climate crisis” instead of “climate change”. Members agreed since more extreme weather events and destruction are occurring.

AGENDA ITEM #9: Adjournment

Member Pesicka moved to adjourn at 4:57 p.m. Member Betchkal seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Jim Schumacher, Secretary

FUTURE MEETING DATES:	TIME:	LOCATION:
May 17th, 2023	3:30 p.m.	City Hall, N. Conf. Room