



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
<https://www.deperewi.gov/>

Agenda

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.84, Notice is hereby given to the public that a meeting of the **Sustainability Commission** of the City of De Pere will be held on **September 13, 2022 at 5:30 PM** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2ND FLOOR CITY HALL, 335 S. BROADWAY STREET. DE PERE.**

The public may attend the meeting either in person in the Council Chambers or electronically/telephonically. Electronic or telephonic access to the meeting is provided below:

Computer/smart phone accessing <https://www.gotomeet.me/DePere>

OR

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States (Toll Free): [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679)

United States: [+1 \(312\) 757-3117](tel:+13127573117)

Access Code: 154-883-285

This meeting may also be rebroadcast on Spectrum Cable Channel 4 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99 throughout the week and available on demand at <http://deperewi.com/>.

- I. Call to Order
 - 1. Roll Call
- II. Public comment upon matters not on the agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. Section 6-3(f) DPMC
- III. Items
 - 1. Approval of the June 14, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes
 - 2. Commission Member Introductions
 - 3. Discuss Sustainability Commission Purpose & Duties
 - 4. Discuss Future Sustainable Projects
- IV. Future Agenda Items
- V. Adjournment

Any person wishing to attend this meeting who, because of disability, requires special accommodations should contact the Clerk's office at 339-4050 by Noon, the previous day so that arrangements can be made.

***Items with an asterisk require City Council approval.**

Agenda Sent To:

Alderspersons

City Administrator

Mayor

Department Heads

TV, Newspapers & Radio Stations

Kress Family Library

De Pere Chamber of Commerce



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: September 13, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Sustainability Commission

FROM: Betty Sellenheim

SUBJECT: Approval of the June 14, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2022 0614 Sustainability_Draft Minutes (PDF)



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
<https://www.deperewi.gov/>

Draft Minutes

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM by Alderperson John Quigley

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Renee Gasch	Commissioner	Present	
Emily Henrigillis	Commissioner	Remote	
Randall Lawton	Commissioner	Late	6:05 PM
Paul Linzmeyer	Commissioner	Absent	
Bill VanBeek	Commissioner	Present	
John Quigley	Alderperson	Present	
Eric Rakers	City Engineer	Present	

Others present:

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director

Betty Sellenheim, Recording Secretary

II. Public comment upon matters not on the agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. §6-3(f) DPMC

None

III. Items

1. Approval of the March 8, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner VanBeek moved to approve the March 8, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Gasch. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill VanBeek, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Renee Gasch, Commissioner
AYES:	Gasch, Henrigillis, VanBeek, Quigley, Rakers
ABSENT:	Paul Linzmeyer
EXCUSED:	Randall Lawton

2. Consider and Possible Action for Election of Chairperson

Commissioner Rakers nominated Alderperson Quigley as Chairperson, seconded by Commissioner Gasch. Upon vote, Alderperson Quigley was unanimously elected Chairperson.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Eric Rakers, City Engineer
SECONDER:	Renee Gasch, Commissioner
AYES:	Gasch, Henrigillis, VanBeek, Quigley, Rakers
ABSENT:	Paul Linzmeyer
EXCUSED:	Randall Lawton

3. Consider and Possible Action for Election of Vice-Chairperson

Commissioner Rakers nominated Commissioner Lawton. Commissioner Gasch nominated herself, seconded by Alderperson Quigley. Upon vote, Commissioner Gasch was unanimously elected Vice-Chairperson.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Renee Gasch, Commissioner
SECONDER:	John Quigley, Alderperson
AYES:	Gasch, Henrigillis, VanBeek, Quigley, Rakers
ABSENT:	Paul Linzmeyer
EXCUSED:	Randall Lawton

4. Discuss Sustainability Commission Purpose & Duties

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, explained the purpose and duties of the Sustainability Commission and its establishment. Mr. Thoresen let the Commission members know that revisions are possible to the ordinance establishing the commission and the purpose and duties thereof. Mr. Thoresen outlined initiatives that have come through the Sustainability Commission. Commissioner VanBeek supported the ordinance and the broad outline provided to work within for green initiatives community-wide. Mr. Thoresen agreed that the initiatives should provide direction community-wide, rather than directing city operations. Mr. Thoresen added that Green Bay offers sub-committees in their Sustainability Commission to work on different projects, but current De Pere Ordinance would not allow this and the Commission may request to have that revised. Commissioner Gasch suggested specifying the Green Tier spreadsheet annual updates under the "duties" section of the ordinance and asked staff about updates since induction. Mr. Thoresen supported the addition of Green Tier annual updates or wording with regards to external organizations. Mr. Thoresen then provided an overview of the scoresheet updates and requirements and suggested including a discussion of the program and scoresheet, along with ordinance changes at the September meeting. Betty Sellenheim, recording secretary, suggested having commissioners provide ordinance changes and update requests via email prior to the September meeting to allow staff to condense them and bring them for discussion. Mr. Thoresen agreed with this plan of action. Commissioner VanBeek asked the process of approving ordinance changes presented in September. Mr. Thoresen explained the process. Alderperson Quigley asked for clarification of the members roles as part of the commission to accomplish the bullet points listed as the powers and duties of the sustainability commission. Mr. Thoresen explained by example the initiative and effort required by members to accomplish the duties and tasks. Alderperson Quigley asked if initiatives could be requested during the future agenda items section of the meeting to be addressed at the next meeting. Mr. Thoresen stated they can be requested at that time or up until the meeting agenda is created by contacting staff.

RESULT: NO ACTION

5. Discuss 2022 No Mow May Results

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, provided an update on the program and changes that were made from year one to year two of participation. Commissioner Lawton asked if staff received any complaints regarding the No Mow May program. Betty Sellenheim, recording secretary, responded that staff received one phone call complaint in the office. Alderperson Quigley responded that he received two phone call complaints from constituents. Commissioner Gasch provided positive feedback she received while soliciting signatures for political candidates in May and suggested that the complaints were not an indication of the entire population. Mr. Thoresen agreed. Alderperson Quigley suggested a stronger educational component if the City offers No Mow May for residents in future years. Mr. Thoresen shared an overview of the information provided on the city website for No Mow May and agreed there are opportunities to grow each year. Commissioner Gasch provided positive feedback for the joint press release issued by De Pere and Green Bay. Mr. Thoresen added that multiple other communities initiated programs upon seeing the joint program De Pere and Green Bay offered their residents.

RESULT: NO ACTION

6. Discuss Planned Natural Landscape Areas

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, explained planned natural landscapes, ordinance changes that would be required to allow them, and the process of implementation. Commissioner Gasch stated that one of the topics for the September Farmers Market was perennial plantings and that would offer a chance for community outreach regarding the potential planned natural landscape ordinance.

RESULT: NO ACTION

7. Discuss Sustainability Commission Booth at the 2022 Farmer's Market

Alderperson Quigley reiterated a previously mentioned point that the June booth space was cancelled due to lack of involvement and asked how the next event was looking for volunteers. Betty Sellenheim, recording secretary, provided there was only one opening to fill. Commissioner VanBeek offered to fill the remaining opening for the July booth. Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, listed the designated topics for the remaining months and outlined the expectations during the events.

RESULT: NO ACTION

8. Consider and possible action on Commissioner Gasch's Request for Idle Limit Ordinance

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, overviewed the Idle Limit Ordinance from previous meetings with the intent of getting action on the item during this meeting. Commissioner Gasch further explained her request for a Clean Air Ordinance and what it entails along with a draft resolution. Mr. Thoresen explained that in order to be enforced, an ordinance would need to be created, rather than a resolution and asked how Commissioner Gasch hoped to proceed. Commissioner Gasch stated an ordinance would be created but thought the resolution provided context about why the City would create an ordinance. Commissioner Rakers stated concerns about enforceability and utilizing police time and resources. Commissioner Gasch defended her request and asked for other suggestions of how to prevent idling in the community if there were concerns. Commissioner Gasch commented the an ordinance with signage that allowed self-

regulation was her preferred enforcement, rather than getting the police heavily involved or writing tickets. Commissioner Lawton provided feedback regarding the feasibility of the ordinance and what he sees as a culture change with limiting or eliminating idling. Alderperson Quigley moved to have staff draft a clear air ordinance to include information about other communities with similar ordinances and how enforcement issues are handled, seconded by Commissioner Gasch.

Commissioner VanBeek agreed with concerns of Commissioner Rakers and stated this request clearly aligned with the role of the commission as outlined earlier in the meeting. Commissioner VanBeek further added that he did not agree with it being focused around schools, but should be directed city-wide. Commissioner Gasch added that this request also aligns with the Green Tier scoresheet. Commissioner Rakers stated there are many items listed on the Green Tier scoresheet, which acts as a guideline of ideas, and members may agree or disagree with each idea individually. Commissioner Gasch expressed her concerns that there are not enough things being done from the scoresheet. Upon vote, the motion passed with a 4-1 vote with Commissioner Rakers voting no.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	John Quigley, Alderperson
SECONDER:	Renee Gasch, Commissioner
AYES:	Renee Gasch, Randall Lawton, Bill VanBeek, John Quigley
NAYS:	Eric Rakers
EXCUSED:	Paul Linzmeyer
AWAY:	Emily Henrigillis

IV. Future Agenda Items

Alderperson Quigley requested a work plan update.

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, suggested a discussion of the Green Tier program and scoresheet, along with commission member proposed ordinance changes

V. Adjournment

Commissioner Rakers moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 PM, seconded by Commissioner Gasch. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Sellenheim



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: September 13, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Sustainability Commission

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Commission Member Introductions



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: September 13, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Discuss Sustainability Commission Purpose & Duties

The Sustainability Commission was originally set up based off Section 10-19 of the De Pere Municipal Code which outlines the purpose and duties of the Sustainability Commission. (See attached). The intent of the discussion is to determine if the existing code should be revised to better match the intent of what the Sustainability Commission would like to accomplish in the future.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Sustainability Commission Ordinance (PDF)

Sec. 10-19. - Sustainability commission.

- (a) *Purpose* . The protection, stewardship, improvement, and promotion of the environment is a public necessity and is required in the interest of health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the De Pere community for present and future generations. The sustainability commission is hereby established to explore sustainability initiatives that can be implemented in De Pere, with the ultimate goal of providing a more sustainable, livable, and healthy community.
- (b) *Definitions* .
 - (1) "Commission" means the sustainability commission.
 - (2) "Sustainability" means the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources, in order to maintain an ecological balance.
- (c) *Commission composition* . The commission is hereby created, consisting of seven members. Of the membership and if available in the community, one shall be an alderperson, one shall be a city employee, and five shall be individuals who live in or work in De Pere. All members shall have demonstrated interest in environmental stewardship; sustainable business practices, development or technology; green building and design; renewable energy; energy efficient transportation; and recycling and waste management. To the extent possible, members appointed shall represent a diverse range of interest and expertise in sustainability, economic backgrounds and interests, and ethnic and cultural affiliations, including educators and students in the aforementioned fields. The Mayor shall appoint the commissioners, subject to confirmation by the common council. Of the initial members appointed, one shall serve a term of one year, two shall serve a term of two years, and two shall serve a term of three years; the alderperson shall finish his or her term. Thereafter, the term for each member shall be three years, except for the alderperson who shall serve a term of two years. Each member is subject to the Code of Ethics as outlined in De Pere Municipal Code [§ 10-16].
- (d) *Officers, meetings and rules of procedure* . The officers of the commission shall be a chair and vice-chair, elected by majority vote of the commission. The chair shall preside at meetings of the commission and shall have the right to vote. The vice-chair shall, in case of absence or disability of the chair, perform the duties of the chair. Officers shall serve for terms of one year or until their successors are regularly elected and take office. The commission shall hold meetings at such times as it deems necessary, and shall also meet upon the call of the chair. The commission shall meet not less than four times each calendar year. Four members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.
- (e) *Powers and duties of the sustainability commission* . The authority and activities of the commission shall be advisory, and it shall act in a cooperative capacity and rely upon voluntary compliance. The basic function of the commission shall be the promotion of sustainable initiatives. The commission may:
 - (1) Advise the mayor and the common council with regard to policies, budgets, and regulations related to sustainable policies and practices relative to the environment, including but not limited to natural resources, energy, food waste, hazardous materials and pollution;
 - (2) Create and present an annual work plan to the common council.
 - (3) Advise municipal efforts to engage the community in a broad range of sustainable initiatives;
 - (4) Consult with private entities, higher education institutions, and the community with regard to the city's sustainable initiatives;
 - (5) Coordinate and support efforts to unite and focus municipal programs and services as they relate to sustainable initiatives;
 - (6) Work on sustainability related projects as directed by the common council and city administrator;
 - (7) Provide a forum for addressing public concerns related to sustainable policies and practices.

(Ord. No. 18-13, § 1, 7-17-2018)



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: September 13, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Discuss Future Sustainable Projects

The intent of this discussion is to see what sustainable type projects the Sustainability Commission would like to work on in the future.