



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

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

Agenda

Tuesday, June 14, 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 **June 14, 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://depercitywi.igmp2.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. §6-3(f) DPMC

III. Items

1. Approval of the March 8, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes
2. Consider and Possible Action for Election of Chairperson
3. Consider and Possible Action for Election of Vice-Chairperson
4. Discuss Sustainability Commission Purpose & Duties
5. Discuss 2022 No Mow May Results
6. Discuss Planned Natural Landscape Areas
7. Discuss Sustainability Commission Booth at the 2022 Farmer's Market
8. Consider and possible action on Commissioner Gasch's Request for Idle Limit Ordinance

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: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Sustainability Commission

FROM: Betty Sellenheim

SUBJECT: Approval of the March 8, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2022 0308 Sustainability Draft Minutes (PDF)



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

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

Draft Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 PM by Alderperson John Quigley

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Renee Gasch	Commissioner	Absent	
Randall Lawton	Commissioner	Present	
Paul Linzmeyer	Commissioner	Remote	
Rebecca McKean	Commissioner	Excused	
John Quigley	Alderperson	Present	
Eric Rakers	City Engineer	Present	
Bill VanBeek	Commissioner	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 Sustainability Commission December 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Linzmeyer moved to approve the December 14, 2021 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner VanBeek. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

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

2. Consider and possible action regarding having a booth at the 2022 Farmer's Market*

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, outlined the upcoming opportunity for the Sustainability Commission to operate a booth at the Farmer's Market in 2022. Mr. Thoresen reviewed the 2021 booth and explained the requirements from commissioners if the Commission chose to move forward with operating a booth in 2022.

Alderperson Quigley expressed interest in having the commission operate the farmer's market booth in 2022 and asked about a schedule. Betty Sellenheim, Recording Secretary, outlined the process of creating the signup, which is then supplied to Commission members and can be passed out to others who may be interested in volunteering. Commissioner VanBeek asked how many dates were anticipated. Ms.

Sellenheim explained that after last season, the discussion was to have more dates, but it would depend on availability from Definitely De Pere. Mr. Thoresen further outlined the "community" booth space offered by Definitely De Pere in 2021. Ms. Sellenheim added that each event requires 4 volunteers. Alderperson Quigley expressed interest in once a month for the season (June through September).

Commissioner VanBeek moved to approve operating a Sustainability Commission booth in 2022 at Farmers Market once a month, seconded by Commissioner Linzmeyer. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

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

3. Consider and Possible Action for No Mow May for 2022*

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, outlined City of De Pere previous approval of No Mow May in 2021, program initiatives, and the results. Mr. Thoresen explained the potential collaboration with Green Bay for 2022 No Mow May.

Commissioner VanBeek spoke in favor of continuing to offer the program to residents.

Commissioner Rakers spoke in opposition of continuing to offer the program and spoke in favor of Planned Natural Landscapes as an alternative. Commissioner VanBeek stated the largest pollen generator for bumble bees was dandelions. Commissioner Linzmeyer spoke in favor of the program and the conversations it will create and open the door to better programs in the future (i.e. Planned Natural Landscapes). Commissioner Lawton suggested working with a biology department to create exhibit information for Farmers Market Booth around the topics of No Mow May and Planned Natural Landscapes.

Commissioner Linzmeyer spoke in favor of educational campaign surrounding pollinator friendly landscaping. Alderperson Quigley suggested a single-page handout at Farmers Market booth about pollinator friendly planting options. Commissioner Rakers elaborated on a few resources for compiling the handout. Commissioner Lawton further expressed support of an educational campaign through Farmers Market booth.

Commissioner Linzmeyer moved to approve the resolution for No Mow May 2022, seconded by Commissioner VanBeek. Upon vote, the motion passed 4-1.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	Paul Linzmeyer, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Bill VanBeek, Commissioner
AYES:	Randall Lawton, Paul Linzmeyer, John Quigley, Bill VanBeek
NAYS:	Eric Rakers
ABSENT:	Renee Gasch
EXCUSED:	Rebecca McKean

4. Discuss Planned Natural Landscape Areas

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, explained the intent of the discussion regarding offering planned natural landscape options for City residents and the process of implementation. Mr. Thoresen also explained the interest in this topic from the Parks Department.

Commissioner Linzmeyer spoke in favor of planned natural landscape opportunities and stated his participation in the creation of the ordinance and program in Green Bay. Alderperson Quigley asked if the ordinance would be for private and/or city owned property. Mr. Thoresen stated it would be for both private and city-owned properties. Commissioner VanBeek asked if it would lead to herbicide and pesticide reduction or elimination in the future. Mr. Thoresen stated he did not think it would be included and would need to be a standalone policy, if the Commission wanted to attempt to move in that direction. Commissioner Linzmeyer spoke in favor of pesticide and herbicide reduction or elimination and believed it would likely be a by-product of the program. Alderperson Quigley provided two options and asked how the Commission wanted to move forward regarding pesticide and herbicide use regarding this program. Commissioner Lawton expressed his belief that reduction and/or elimination of pesticides and herbicides was built into the system and would be a byproduct of participation, but would not need to be mandated as part of the program participation. Commissioner Lawton expressed that education would be key for the program. Commissioners Linzmeyer and VanBeek agreed with Commissioner Lawton. Commissioner Rakers expressed his support of a planned natural landscape program and outlined examples of situations where pesticides and herbicides will still be required and cannot be eliminated. Alderperson Quigley asked if this item required a motion. Mr. Thoresen stated that the group appeared interested in the creation of a planned natural landscape ordinance and staff would work with the Legal Department on a draft version for approval at a future meeting.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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5. Consider and possible action on Commissioner Gasch's Request for Idle Limit Ordinance
- Alderperson Quigley asked staff if the topic should be discussed without Commissioner Gasch's presence. Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, stated the topic should likely be tabled until the next meeting and summarized the discussion from the previous meeting. Commissioner Rakers asked if more information and/or a draft ordinance would be provided or if the action being requested is to determine if staff should take the time to draft an ordinance. Mr. Thoresen stated the action was to determine if there was enough interest for staff to invest the time to draft an ordinance for consideration. Commissioner Lawton moved to table the item until June 2022 meeting, seconded by Commissioner VanBeek. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	TABLED [UNANIMOUS]
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	Next: 6/14/2022 5:30 PM
MOVER:	Randall Lawton, Commissioner
SECONDER:	Bill VanBeek, Commissioner
AYES:	Lawton, Linzmeyer, Quigley, Rakers, VanBeek
ABSENT:	Renee Gasch
EXCUSED:	Rebecca McKean

IV. Future Agenda Items

None

V. Adjournment

Commissioner Linzmeyer moved to adjourn meeting at 6:09 PM, seconded by Commissioner Rakers. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Sellenheim



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Consider and Possible Action for Election of Chairperson

Section 10-19 (d), De Pere Municipal Code (see attached), requires the Commission to annually elect a chair of the Sustainability Commission.

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: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Consider and Possible Action for Election of Vice-Chairperson

Section 10-19 (d), De Pere Municipal Code (see attached), requires the Commission to annually elect a vice - chair of the Sustainability Commission.

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* .
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(Ord. No. 18-13, § 1, 7-17-2018)



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Discuss Sustainability Commission Purpose & Duties

Section 10-19 of the De Pere Municipal Code outlines the purpose and duties of the Sustainability Commission. (See attached).

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.
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(Ord. No. 18-13, § 1, 7-17-2018)



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Discuss 2022 No Mow May Results

The Commission and Council approved No Mow May for 2022. As discussed previously, the City partnered with the City of Green Bay as a way to get more information out to the community on No Mow May. This year for those that wanted to participate in No Mow May were required to register with the City and install a No Mow May sign in their front yard. The City had 285 residents in the City actually registered for this year's event. 43 residents registered in person and the others registered online. Those that registered we had 184 pick up signs to place in their yards. Residents were required to return the No Mow May signs and mow their yards as of June 1st.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Discuss Planned Natural Landscape Areas

At the March 8, 2022 Commission meeting discussion was had regarding planned natural landscape areas throughout the City. At this time, staff is currently working with the City Attorney's office in creating an ordinance to allow permanent areas of properties throughout the City to grow prairie grass etc. including City properties and not mow them. This would promote native vegetation as part of the process to help the "pollinators". It is the intent of staff to have a draft ordinance prepared to present to the Commission at the September 13, 2022 meeting.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

Request For Sustainability Commission Action

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Discuss Sustainability Commission Booth at the 2022 Farmer's Market

ATTACHMENTS:

- Discuss Farmer's Market 6-8-2022 (PDF)

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Scott J. Thoresen, Director of Public Works
Date: June 8, 2022
RE: Discuss Sustainability Commission Booth at the 2022 Farmer's Market

The Sustainability Commission recommended, and the Council approved for the Commission to have a booth at the De Pere's Farmer's Market. The intent of the booth was to educate the community on the City's Sustainability Commission and sustainable initiatives being worked on. The June 9th Farmer's Market booth was cancelled due to the lack of volunteers signing up to be at the booth. The next scheduled dates for the Sustainability Commission to be at the Farmer's Market is July 14th, August 11th, and September 8th. There are two shifts per each date which are 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM and 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM. Commissioners or other volunteers can sign up at the signup link for specific shifts:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44A5AE2EA1FDC61-2022>

Those working the first shift (3:00 PM to 5:30 PM) will have the booth set up and just need to be prepared to discuss various topics which are:

- July topics: Yard/home composting and litter critter/proper disposal
- August topics: DIY tips for conserving energy at home and rain barrels
- September topics: Proper leaf management for fall and benefits of planting perennials

Those working the second shift (5:30 PM to 8:00 PM) will also need to be prepared to discuss various topics mentioned above and will need to take down the booth when the Farmer's Market is over.

It is important for the Commission to sign up for the Sustainability Commission booth or recruit other volunteers to sign up for this to be successful.

**City of De Pere, Wisconsin****Request For Sustainability Commission Action**

MEETING DATE: June 14, 2022

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

FROM: Scott Thoresen

SUBJECT: Consider and possible action on Commissioner Gasch's Request for Idle Limit Ordinance

At the last commission meeting, discussion was had regarding Commissioner Gasch's request for creating an idle limit ordinance in the City. At this meeting, the Commission was split on their views with creating an idle limit ordinance. It was decided to bring this item back for discussion to determine whether to draft an ordinance or not to allow for those commissioners that were absent from the meeting to have a chance to discuss.