



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

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

Final 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