



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

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

Final Minutes

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Alderperson John Quigley

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jayne Black	Commissioner	Present	
Cindy Champeau	Commissioner	Excused	
Emily Henrigillis	Commissioner	Remote	
Randall Lawton	Commissioner	Late	5:31 PM
Eric Rakers	City Engineer	Present	
Nicole Slavin	Commissioner	Present	
John Quigley	Alderperson	Present	

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director

Betty Sellenheim, Administrative Assistant/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. Section 6-3(f) DPMC

None

III. Items

1. Approval of the December 13, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Rakers moved to approve the December 13, 2022 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes, seconded by Alderperson Quigley. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Eric Rakers, City Engineer
SECONDER:	John Quigley, Alderperson
AYES:	Black, Henrigillis, Lawton, Rakers, Slavin, Quigley
EXCUSED:	Cindy Champeau

2. Consider and Possible Action on 2023 Work Plan*

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, explained the annual work plan presentation to Common Council and outlined projects presented in 2021. Mr. Thoresen explained the projects having been selected from the Green Tier Scoresheet. Mr. Thoresen explained the scoresheet included in the agenda packet may be modified by the DNR moving forward, but commission members could still use it to choose work projects. Mr. Thoresen informed the commission that Public Works has an intern that will be working primarily on sustainability tasks.

Alderperson Quigley asked for clarification on getting some of the past work projects accomplished. Mr. Thoresen stated the commission members, community members, and staff are all required to accomplish the projects but who tackles it depends on expertise of the subject. Mr. Thoresen added that the internal GIS staff was working on the paved surfaces and planned to have the intern try to tackle the other items listed. Commissioner

Rakers suggested setting goals for the February meeting including researching requirements for League of American Bicyclists certification and Bird City Wisconsin. Commissioner Rakers offered to assist with researching League of American Bicyclists Certification. Commissioner Henrigillis offered to research Bird City Wisconsin. Commissioner Lawton expressed concerns about workload being requested of the members, small impact projects being proposed, and the cost to make real change. Alderperson Quigley explained the commission's status as an advisory group and mentioned the topic of changing that status was up for discussion on multiple agendas. Alderperson Quigley offered an opportunity to present Commissioner Lawton's research to the Commission and Council. Commissioner Black challenged the idea that small impact projects being futile. Commissioner Lawton explained his position with regard to communities not being prepared for the financial investment required to reduce carbon and emissions. Commissioner Black offered that change happens one step at a time on all different levels (community, government, schools, businesses). Commissioner Lawton expressed his concerns with the action taken by the commission since its inception approximately 4 years earlier. Mr. Thoresen commented on the commission's purpose to promote and create change in the community and not make recommendations for City operations. Commissioner Henrigillis requested the following items be included for 2023 work plan: watt meters available to public; Stormwater utility fees offer credits for best management practices such as rain barrels, rain gardens, and pervious paving; and All outdoor watering by local government, excluding parks and golf courses, from rain collection. Alderperson Quigley revisited a questions from Commissioner Henrigillis regarding partial credit. Mr. Thoresen explained how partial credit is calculated. Commissioner Rakers specifically explained how partial credit was calculated for the specific item for stormwater utility credits. Mr. Thoresen offered to bring Commissioner Henrigillis' work item requests back in the February meeting, along with the original work plan topics, with a list of what is required for each one to be accomplished.

RESULT:	NO ACTION
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3. Consider and Possible Action on Clean Air Resolution*

Alderperson Quigley outlined some past history of this item in the Commission and commented with regards to the ordinances included in the packet that each state has a law regarding idling.

Scott Thoresen, Public Works Director, expressed concerns with the wording of the proposed De Pere Resolution and remarked that the Commission will need to determine if the resolution will be geared towards the community or schools and then work on the "whereas" statements.

Commissioner Black supported starting in the schools and expanding into the community. Commissioner Rakers suggested an idle limit program, rather than a resolution or ordinance, which would be simpler and quicker to implement and could be built on over time. Commissioner Black agreed. Alderperson Quigley clarified Commissioner Rakers suggestion. Commissioner Rakers stated he would be willing to do some research on other programs, the information De Pere wants to share, and how to share it, and be the point of contact for a small working group to bring more information back at a future meeting. Commissioner Black and Commissioner Henrigillis requested to assist with this program. Mr. Thoresen approved of a small working group to put together the whereas statements and what the commissioner hopes to accomplish. Commissioner Rakers clarified that he was not looking to establish a resolution with whereas statements, but a program that focused on the information to be distributed and how to distribute it.

Mr. Thoresen asked how the commission planned to present that to the Council. Alderperson Quigley stated it would be presented with the information gathered from other states and communities and request implementation in the City. Mr. Thoresen stated that something needs to be presented to Council to follow-up on the Idle Limit Ordinance having been referred back to the Commission. Commissioner Rakers suggested this program be presented similar to the Trex plastic bag recycling program and the working group would assemble the guts of the program for February and then work on more details. Mr. Thoresen reiterated the plan and agreed with it. Alderperson Quigley referred the clean air resolution back to staff to work with commissioners to research other programs and create a plan for De Pere, seconded by Commissioner Black. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

RESULT:	REFERRED BACK TO STAFF [UNANIMOUS]
	Next: 3/14/2023 5:30 PM
MOVER:	Eric Rakers, City Engineer
SECONDER:	Jayne Black, Commissioner
AYES:	Black, Henrigillis, Lawton, Rakers, Slavin, Quigley
EXCUSED:	Cindy Champeau

IV. Future Agenda Items

None

V. Adjournment

Commissioner Rakers moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 PM, seconded by Commissioner Black. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Sellenheim