

## **SUSTAINABLE LA CROSSE COMMISSION**

Thursday, May 6, 2010

La Crosse County Administrative Center, Room 3220

4:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jai Johnson, Dan Bagniewski, Mike Giese, Wayne Olson, Jean Salk, Rob Tyser

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Marilyn Pedretti, Brad Konkel

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eric Schmidt

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Nick Nichols, Margaret Norden, Jerry Severson, Steve O'Malley, Erica Black, Dale Hexom

### **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Vice-Chair Jai Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None requested.

### **APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2010**

**MOTION** by Bagniewski/Tyser to approve the Minutes of March 25, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.** Konkel, Pedretti excused; Schmidt absent.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

None reported.

### **BASELINE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Jerry Severson reported that the Facilities Department energy reports were graphed to have examples to compare. Jean Salk reported on the difficulties of coming up with a protocol to analyze five years of data. Rob Tyser stated he has contacted the City of La Crosse account manager about obtaining their premise meter information. He suggested having a student research project.

### **REQUEST FOR EDUCATION FUNDS FOR CITY OF LA CROSSE PLASTIC RECYCLING**

Jai Johnson reported the City of La Crosse Public Works Board has worked out a contract on plastic recycling with Harter's Quick Clean-up, and she feels the Common Council will pass legislation. The Public Works Board has set up a fund for contributions to public education on plastics and recycling in general. She requested a \$200 pledge contingent on legislation passing. Discussion was held regarding non-monetary ways to promote recycling, and contributions to other municipalities' recycling education. **MOTION** by Giese/Tyser to pledge \$250 for county-wide recycling promotion. **Motion passed unanimously.** Konkel, Pedretti excused; Schmidt absent.

### **REVIEW OF OTHER GREEN CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS**

Karl Green's presentation was referred to the May 27, 2010, meeting.

### **SUGGESTIONS FOR OTHER SUB-COMMITTEES**

Suggestions for sub-committee topics were given as follows:

- Ride sharing
- Education and website
- Building codes

Further discussion was held regarding the following:

- The impact of LHI construction on parking availability, and looking at sustainable practices such as express shuttles that may continue to be used after construction is done. Wayne Olson stated he will look into having a Sustainable La Crosse committee member work with the City of La Crosse committee on parking utilities;
- Coordinating the various education venues that are teaching The Natural Step so there is consistent communication. Jai Johnson will coordinate. Nichols suggested including a Western Technical College representative.
- Bringing in CouleeCap to dovetail with Karl Green's presentation on LEED alternatives, and to discuss building codes on both new and remodeled construction.

## **INFORMATIONAL UPDATES**

- Bike to Work Week is May 15-21.
- La Crosse County Solid Waste will have a new flyer on spring clean-up and open hours for household waste drop-off. The department is adding metal recycling, and is working with the Habitat Restore.
- The annual report from Xcel Energy will be given at County Board.
- The County Health and Human Services Board is working with Hank Koch, solid waste director, on elevating the issue of burn barrels.
- La Crosse City Hall has a project to replace ceiling tiles and to replace heating control valves with digital units. They will fund through an energy efficiency block grant. The next project will be lighting replacement.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Sustainability website update on number of hits and what is being accessed

Report on burn barrels

City of La Crosse parking utilities update

CouleeCap report on building codes

**NEXT MEETING: MAY 27, 2010, AT 4:00 P.M.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Olson/Giese to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Pedretti, Konkel excused; Schmidt absent. Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

**Approved,** May 27, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder