

SUSTAINABLE LA CROSSE COMMISSION

May 27, 2010

Room 3220 Administrative Center

4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marilyn Pedretti, Dan Bagniewski, Mike Giese, Jai Johnson, Wayne Olson, Jean Salk, Rob Tyser
MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Schmidt
MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brad Konkel
OTHERS PRESENT: Erica Black, Nick Nichols, Karl Green, Jerry Severson, Dale Hexom, Terri Pavlic

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marilyn Pedretti called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 6, 2010

MOTION by Johnson/Tyser to approve the May 6, 2010 minutes of the Sustainable La Crosse Commission. **MOTION** by Johnson/Giese to amend the minutes as follows: Under the section, "Request for Education Funds for City of La Crosse Plastic Recycling", the motion should state "MOTION by Giese/Tyser to pledge \$250 for county-wide recycling promotion" and the following should be deleted, "\$200 to City of La Crosse special fund for education on plastics and recycling contingent upon City legislation". Also, under "Suggestions for Other Sub-Committees, Further discussion was held regarding the following – Coordinating the various education venues that are teaching The Natural Step so there is consistent communication", it should just state "Jai Johnson" will coordinate. Delete Rob Tyser, Jean Salk and Nick Nichols. **MOTION** to amend minutes carried unanimously. (Konkel excused; Schmidt absent) **MOTION** to pass the motion to approve the minutes with the amendment carried unanimously. (Konkel excused; Schmidt absent)

AGENCY REPORTS

Dale Hexom reported and distributed a brochure that the City of La Crosse will begin recycling #1 and #2 plastics as of June 1, 2010. All City of La Crosse water customers will receive the brochure in their water bills.

BASELINE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Karl Green indicated that subcommittee met just prior to this commission meeting. They are working to:

1. Get a full report issued electronically from Xcel Energy. They have received some information from them and are working on areas of discrepancy in some of the data.
2. Analyze how to display this information to the public. Green shared several graphs showing statistical analysis of the Administrative Center.

Olson and Salk will contact the City and the County Finance Departments to review their records and compare them with Xcel records. Also, Jerry Severson will contact Rob Sturgis at Xcel to request a presentation to this committee about the data we can expect to obtain from them.

REVIEW OF OTHER GREEN CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Green reviewed environmental certification programs for buildings, focusing on Green Globes, LEED, and Energy Star. In order to have a certification program, there must be a certifier or someone that recognizes the program as part of the certification process. Included in the handout (also sent via e-mail) were links.

(Giese excused at 4:30 p.m.)

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The consensus of the committee was to move forward on this by making a table of comparisons to present to City Council and County Board. Tyser and Johnson will come up with a rough draft of a policy. If anyone else is interested in helping with this, contact Tyser.

UPDATE ON SUSTAINABILITY WEBSITE

Green reported that the sustainability website had approximately 560 hits per month. Discussion followed as to viability and work involved to enhance the site or to discontinue it. Olson and Erica Black will head up a subcommittee to discuss the future of this site and to review the non-working links.

RESOLUTION 25X25 – EXPLANATION OF THE GOVERNOR’S PLAN AND POSSIBLE COUNTY INVOLVEMENT

Nick Nichols had previously sent out some information on the PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) program, a program administered by municipalities. The State of Wisconsin is seeking grant money to fund a state-wide program. To qualify for this program, a municipality would need to pass the 25X25 resolution. Nichols had a copy of the 25x25 resolution passed by the City of La Crosse. Pedretti, Konkell and Nichols will work on a resolution to bring back to this commission to approve prior to going to County Board.

REPORT ON BURN BARRELS

Nichols indicated that Doug Mormann and the HHS Board were looking at burn barrels and their impact on health. Hank Koch gave a report to their committee and they are trying to come up with a way to reduce the number of burn barrels in the County.

UPDATE ON CITY OF LA CROSSE PARKING UTILITIES

Olson met with the city and updated the commission on the latest parking utilities.

MISCELLANEOUS

Xcel Energy and the Solid Waste Department are working together to put in a non-ferrous metal collection system at the Waste to Energy Plant.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Baseline update
2. Green certification programs draft policy
3. Website update
4. 25x25 resolution

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Bagniewski/Olson to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m **carried unanimously.**
(Konkel & Giese excused; Schmidt absent)

Approved, June 24, 2010, Terri Pavlic, Recorder