



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
COMMISSION ON THE
ENVIRONMENT

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

*Jonathan Standridge, Chair; Keith Pierce, Vice Chair; Ald. Larry Palm; Michael Rewey;
Susan Bulgrin; Roger Bannerman; Elena Bennett; Reginald Weide; Theresa Stabo;
Executive Secretary Michael R. Dailey; Staff: Marilyn Bakken, Greg Fries, Genesis
Bichanich*

Monday, March 21, 2005

4:45 PM

210 MLKJ BLVD RM 103A (CCB)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Standridge called the Commission meeting to order at 4:48 p.m. noting that the meeting was properly noticed and a quorum was present.

ROLL CALL

Present: Robbie Webber, Jonathan H. Standridge, Roger T. Bannerman, Reginald N. Weide and Keith W. Pierce

Excused: Michael W. Rewey, Susan M. Bulgrin, Theresa Stabo and Elena M. Bennett

Items of concern brought to the Commission but not listed below - for future agenda.

Noted for the record that no items of concern were brought before the Commission that were not noted on the Agenda.

1. Approval of Minutes of February 21, 2005 meeting.

Minutes of February 21, 2005 minutes approved - motion by Bannerman; seconded by Webber; unanimously passed.

2. [00733](#) Authorizing City of Madison to enter into an Agreement with the SolarBee Division of Pump Systems, Inc. to install 5 solar-powered circulation devices (SolarBees) in Monona Bay for a free trial period from April 2005 to November 2005.

A motion was made by Bannerman, seconded by Webber, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation to Approve as Substituted to the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ms. Genesis Bichanich with Engineering distributed photos of a solar bee and explained that the City is being offered the opportunity to install five of these solar bee devices into Monona Bay from April through November of 2005 free of charge to test whether slow movement in the water would assist in keeping blue green algae from blooming and growing. The blue green algae do not flourish unless the water is stagnant. She explained the solar bee device pipe would be submerged about 3' into the water and would gently pull in water and circulate it to keep water moving. It should not be so forceful as to pull up any bottom sediment. [Monona Bay has an average depth of 5' so the device would only be submerged 3' into the water]. Monona Bay is about 160 acres in size and a solar bee is able to take care of up to a 50 acre area. This would also allow the City to see what effect the solar bee has on water quality.

The Army Corps of Engineers will be doing a study next summer to assess how the Solar Bees control weeds (in addition to the blue green algae).

She stressed the fact that this is a one-time offer and if the City found them to be helpful in controlling blue green algae and weed control, it has the option to purchase the five solar bee devices for \$200,000 [5 solar bees, installation as well as a boat]. The City may also have option to lease the solar bees for a year or more to gather more information if it wished.

The Commissioners discussed this offer and a suggestion was made that the City use four SolarBees in Monona Bay and place on device in one of the triangle areas, unless the company would be willing to offer a sixth device. This would allow for a paired-basin approach for comparing data in areas with and without a SolarBee. Mr. Dailey stated that a neighborhood meeting would be held on March 31 to discuss this with the residents.

Motion was made to accept the offer of the five solar bees, and that four solar bees be installed in Monona Bay and one installed in one of the two triangle areas [also to see if the Company would provide a sixth device]. Also requested that the Lead Agency Board of Public Works receive this information [including these minutes] for its April 6, 2005 meeting. Ms. Bichanich stated she will be making a similar presentation to the Board of Public Works for its April 6 meeting. [A Substitute Resolution would be recommended to the Board of Public Works if the Company provides a sixth device].

Noted for the record that Susan Graham with WDNR was present at the meeting for information on the Solar Bee item. (She stated she was only present to listen and not to offer information since the DNR has not stated their position on the project yet). The motion passed by acclamation.

3. [00839](#)

Authorizing the City of Madison to accept volunteer release forms from residents of the neighborhood adjacent to the Parr Street stormwater outfall, allowing them to maintain a trash collection device installed in Monona Bay by the City. [13th AD]

A motion was made by Webber, seconded by Bannerman, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Dailey reported that neighborhood residents adjacent to Parr Street stormwater outfall have requested the City's assistance in removing the trash that floats in this area. Currently the residents are cleaning up the trash that is in this area. The City would install a collection "net" that the residents could clean out. The City Attorney has drafted a release form for the residents to complete and return to the City to allow for a "net" to be placed at the outfall for residents to clean out without having to enter the water. This would require DNR approval of a permit already submitted to them.

The motion passed by acclamation.

4. Continued Discussions on Dark Sky Ordinance Issues.

No discussions took place on this item. Commissioner Rewey was not present to speak to the item. Item will be placed on next agenda.

5. Discussions on any Updates RE: Phosphorous Ban Ordinance and Lawsuit.

Mr. Dailey reported that both parties to the lawsuit have requested summary judgement - if the Judge agrees the case would be settled, if not the case would go to court on October 17, 2005.

Dr. Sorsa with Health Department distributed a copy of a letter that has been sent to about 34 retail store owners informing them that Ordinance 7.48 "Regulation on Sale and Use of Fertilizers" has been amended. The amendments became effective 1/1/05.

No action was necessary; this was just an informational update.

6. REPORTS OF COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES [for discussion and possible inclusion on future agendas]

Board of Public Works - [Rewey]

No report Commissioner Rewey not present.

Water Utility Board - [Standridge]

Chair Standridge reported that the new Water Utility Facility will be opening soon; it will be a good gateway to the City with the new pool; they will use recirculated water for the front features to the building. Suggested everyone take a tour once opened.

Health Commission - [Bulgrin]

No report Commissioner Bulgrin excused from meeting.

Solid Waste Committee - [Weide]

Commissioner Weide reported that residents will soon be receiving postcards in the mail to respond to the type of recycling collection bin they wish to receive. If a resident does not respond they will receive a 65 gallon container. He also stated that the company that had offered to place advertising on the bins has now found they will not have capability to do that.

Staff - [Dailey/Fries/Bichanich]

No staff report.

7. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS

Combining of Health Departments [Meet the New Board?]

Election of Officers - [May]

Parking Lot Sealcoating - Coal Tar Use - [July - Bannerman]

Road Salt Report - [July - Hausbeck]

Continued Discussions on Dark Sky Ordinance Issues.

CoGen Plant Agreement Update between MG & E and UW Madison [Invite Don Peterson of MG & E]

Update on City's Climate Protection Plan - [DeMorett]

Mercury from Power Plants

Water Quality Subcommittee Report [April]

Idling Issue- Extended to more Vehicles and Enforced more times throughout the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Minutes prepared by M. Bakken, Approved by Michael R. Dailey, P.E., Executive Secretary