



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE

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Monday, June 20, 2016

4:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 300 (Madison Municipal Building)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m., following verification that a quorum was present and the meeting had been properly noticed.

**Present:** 10 - Jaclyn D. Lawton; Rajan V. Shukla; Michael J. Vickerman; Lance E. Green; Richard J. Pearson; Jesse J. Shields; Jason A. Vargo; Jeannette E. LeZaks; Richard A. Heinemann and Stacie A. Reece

**Absent:** 3 - David Ahrens; David P. Rhode and Sophia S. Rogers

**Excused:** 4 - John M. Conowall; Sam J. Breidenbach; Bradley Campbell and Tracy E. Harvey

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Shields, seconded by Reece to Approve the Minutes from April and May. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public were present to make comments on an issue not on the meeting agenda.

Leslie Schroeder – Marquette Neighborhood Association (MNA)'s Tree Committee – Working mainly on street trees, which provide for carbon capture, shade – without shade could see an increase in energy use by 20% because of no shade. In the Sustainable Plan – Goal 7 – states we should keep and protect large shade street trees. We are losing street trees because of Emerald Ash Borer – however, 50% of the replacements trees are being replaced with ornamental trees that are not considered canopy trees.

MNA is looking at solutions such as underground power lines. The committee is researching the costs of only partial undergrounding only the main power line. It is a small fraction of full undergrounding cost for all wires. There is an Emerald Ash Bore fee on the WU bill which could help pay for doing a modified underground through the – Urban Forestry Charge. This fee recognized the needs of urban trees to provide shade and to cover costs associated with EAB mitigation, but we are not replacing tree with shade trees. The cost for modifying undergrounding is \$200K for half block.

Shayna LGB – There is a petition on Change.org look for Madison's trees. There are over 600 people. In Madison 56% of trees will be cut down. In Milwaukee the preservation is 80%. Cutting down of these trees has a huge impact. The impact of these trees being lost needs to be addressed. Where is the environmental impact of cutting down these trees? The trees are getting cut down too fast for the public to even react. Property values will go down and utilities bills will go up.

Gary Tipler - On MNA Tree Committee – provided a hand-out (attached to Legistar.)

Lance Green - What is MNA doing to save the trees?

Gary Tipler - Adopting trees in parks is something that MNA is doing. We did get a study grant – and through the public input process for the study - the number one item for the neighborhood was trees. You can't adopt a street tree.

Jason Vargo – Where did you get the numbers?

Shayna and Leslie – Got information from Isthmus articles and Facebook page.

Lance Green – I heard recently some trees are getting saved?

Gary Tipler – This is for Jennifer Street reconstruction. At first 10 trees were saved, now 9 more under wiring will be saved and an additional two more trees on the third round of review.

Shayna – They are cutting faster than we can determine what steps to take to save the trees.

Michael Vickerman – is there a map showing where power lines are and where are they underground? Most neighborhoods built after the 1960's the lines are already underground so it is only in older neighborhoods where this is happening.

Jason Vargo – Do we have a tree ordinance?

Karl and Jeanne – To continue this discussion this will need to be another topic for a future agenda item.

## DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [42193](#) Review the Madison Sustainability Plan and discuss what has been accomplished or is being worked on, what do we need more information to determine what is happening and what isn't getting worked on.

**Attachments:** [2016Sustainability Plan review and update.pdf](#)  
[HIA740Reports \(2\).pdf](#)  
[HIA740PresentationsSmall.pdf](#)  
[THTFinalReport.pdf](#)  
[Sustainability plan update - working doc.xlsx](#)  
[Sustainability Plan Suggested Action 7-16.pdf](#)

Karl and Jeanne gave some background and process. Committee decided to ask all members to identify Top 10 goals that could be considered low hanging and that we could do quickly.

Committee decided to also form a small group to review the Plan and identify overarching goals in each section, look for where there is overlap with other committees and develop a modification plan for the larger committee to review in July.

Committee volunteers to work with van Lith--Vargo, LeZaks, Shukla and Pearson. Karl will organize meeting over the next two weeks.

2. [43379](#) Update on the Georgetown University Energy Prize.

**Attachments:** [Green Madison Update SMC 062016.pptx](#)

Hoffman presented a PowerPoint on the GUEP. (Link to Legistar) Good progress being made with potential 12% energy savings in target areas in the past year and a half.

3. [43380](#) Update on Energy Plan.

Plan passed Common Council and discussions being held with MG&E on developing collaboration agreement that will help focus areas of energy savings. Some areas to work on LED street lighting, benchmarking, enhancing the electric vehicle infrastructure and looking at a shared, utility scale solar project. Updates will continue to come to the committee.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Lawton, seconded by LeZaks to Adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.