



City of Madison

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

Monday, December 16, 2013

4:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Also absent: Jeanne Hoffman

Present: 10 -

John M. Conowall; Rajan V. Shukla; John M. Robinson; Lance E. Green;
Anya M. Firszt; Jeannette E. LeZaks; David P. Rhode; Lou W.
Host-Jablonski; Richard A. Heinemann and Zachary T. Schuster

Absent: 6 -

David Ahrens; Hans J. Hinke; Sam J. Breidenbach; Richard J. Pearson;
Jesse J. Shields and David A. Albino

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the November meeting were approved subject to a change on page 5. A motion to approve with the change was made by Conowall/seconded by LaZaks. Approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

31259

Development of a Bicycle Reimbursement Program for City Employees that could be a model for other employers.

Attachments: [How to Create a Bike Commuter Culture in the Workplace AmFam.pdf](#)
[BIKE TO WORK.pdf](#)
[2012 LGOP Transport EmployeeCommuteSurveyResults.xlsx](#)
[Commuting Incentive Report.pdf](#)
[CorporateBikeProgramsBMLB.pdf](#)
[20131022_Transportation_Breifing.pdf](#)
[WSGC Transport Plan SPD revised August 2013 \(00780331\).pdf](#)
[BikeMileageReimburseResID30853.pdf](#)

Committee member Shulka reported that he and members, LeZaks and Robinson meet discuss barriers to alternative transportation and ways to enhance the resolution language to make it more comprehensive. The group felt that more than just bike incentives should be discussed and that a more coordinated effort needed to be made in order to enhance a cultural shift within the city employee group and city residents in general with regard to using alternative transportation.

The group felt that the resolution language limited possibilities by only focusing on city employee commuters and bike transportation. They felt that there had not been a good recent survey or analysis of the survey results that provided good data for decision making and wanted to have time to gather more data. They wanted to link the resolution to the Transportation Master Plan and other strategies that will enhance overall alternative transportation initiatives.

The committee agreed with the need to gather more data and asked for an action plan from the group. Shulka, LaZaks and Robinson, along with staff, are to meet and determine a plan of action to gather more information and focus the resolution more broadly. The group will meet in January to develop a game plan for the committee to review in the first quarter of 2014.

[31619](#)

Green TIF Districts - Developing a report on what green features could be included in the City's TIF Districts

Attachments: [Sustainable Madison TIF Presentation 10-22-13.pptx](#)

Member Shulka reported that member Heinemann had attended the TIF ad hoc committee meeting. TIF policy is under review currently and a recommendation for changes is being made for presentation to the Common Council in January. Green features are already included in draft language and meeting minute comments, but specific features and the weight of specific features has not yet been detailed. The committee would like the TIF language and resolution referred to them as part of the review process by Council.

[32211](#)

Grow Solar Wisconsin Presentation on the pilot "Solar Bulk Purchasing Program" and the need for a Solar Loan Reserve Fund

Attachments: [Madison Solar Slides 11 18 13 v 2.pdf](#)
[MadiSUN Solar Group Buy and LLR Resolution.pdf](#)

Bryant Moroder did a recap of his presentation to the committee from last month and updated the committee on loan loss reserve are being used in solar programs by other cities, the fact that we have three financial institutions interested in participating with us and potential impact of state budget spending in 2014 make the program important to get enacted.

Member LeZaks raised questions about whether an energy audit and overall energy efficiency might a necessary part of any loan and that inefficient building insulation and other factors may be more important items to support first. Moroder said that solar installers are aware of the energy efficiency building issues and that most of them had conducted audits on projects they are currently doing. The committee in discussion wondered it that should not be a requirement of the program and after discussion suggested that it not be mandatory, but suggested for those partaking in the program should have had an audit within the past 10 years. Moroder suggested we keep the program simple for now, that the audits are part of many installers process right now and that it should not be mandatory. He felt that adjustments could be made to the program, or on a case-by case basis, if the solar energy outputs were not at desired levels after several installations. The committee seemed to be fine with that approach.

Member Green raised the issue that the committee was supposed to vote on approving the resolution language and discussion ensued. Member Shulka thought that the percentage of the budget being used for the loan-lose program was too high. He felt that we needed to know the whole picture of how the million dollars was going to be spent, given that he and others thought that half of it was going to be spent on city building improvements. Members Robinson, Conowell and Schuster agreed that they would like to see the big picture of how the million dollar budget was proposed to be spent and would like Jeanne Hoffman to talk about this at the next meeting.

Member Shulka moved to postpone the vote on the resolution to the next meeting. This was seconded by Robinson. The committee approved (6-1-1-absention)

[32497](#)

The Sustainable Futures Analysis Budget Workbook - Presentation by Susan Thering, Ph.D, Executive Director of the Design Coalition Institute.

Link: http://www.designcoalition.org/DInstitute/A_Programs/A8010p01.htm

Kurt Reinhold presented information on a pilot being conducted in the City of Monona. He acts as developer and middle man in getting solar applications installed by the Monona to reduce their energy costs. Currently 157KWH are being generated by four city facilities in Monona—the city hall, library, public works garage and well pumping station.

Mr. Reinhold identified some of the challenges in WI facing third- party financing. Specific IRS restrictions on tax write offs by non-profits, WI law and the definition of a “public utility” and the need to balance complexity of projects with higher costs. He also highlighted that other states, particularly CA, have half of their solar projects developed through third-party ownership. Reinhold felt that good planning and execution of this type of program could overcome the challenges, but that there are complexities. He felt that next time he might recommend using an electrical coop to simplify the process.

Member Green asked if there was a limit to the KW's that could be generated. Reinhold and Host-Jablonski said there are some limits set by the PSC that tie to the specific amount of energy generated and used at a specific site. They thought that was 100kws and that rates and tariffs were tied to that amount. John Sumi, Legislative Affairs Director from MG&E was in attendance and he mentioned that there were specific size limits for obtaining specific rates per meter.

Member Rhode asked about total costs for the Monona systems. Reinhold said nothing up front, other than sweat equity for installation, etc. Monona can purchase the equipment for 50% after three years and it also had to have specific insurance coverage for systems over 20KW's. Member Green asked if the state legislature might be considering changing rules for third-party financing in the near future. Reinhold felt that this was a long shot, given there is no draft legislation proposed and that the political will did not seem to be there for change. The process is complicated.

[32498](#)

Third Party Ownership of Solar - A Pilot Project - Presentation by Kurt Reinhold and Jesse Durst

Attachments: [RECSA_JMD2013.pdf](#)
[Monona-solar-Intro-12-16-13.pdf](#)

Sue Thering presented an Excel spreadsheet toolkit she had developed. The workbook utilizes ideas from comprehensive planning, sustainable development and strategic planning that are linked to budget decision making. Ms. Thering has used the workbook frequently with Wisconsin Tribal Nations to assist them in developing a rationale for spending and spending changes.

The worksheet describes sustainability elements, everything from dental health to housing and community facilities, and ascribes a goal and strategies to each element.

Staff member van Lith offered that the city is using this process already within its Outcome Based Budgeting approach and that the city will move along this path further in 2014 and 2015. Ms. Thering wanted to make us aware of the tool and offered to present to other committees or agencies on its use.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Conowall moved to adjourn/motion was seconded by Shulka and motion was unanimously approved.