



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, July 20, 2015

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)
Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order following verification that the meeting was properly noticed and a quorum was present.

Kristi Sorsa, Madison/Dane County Public Health, was also in attendance.

Present: 9 - Zach Wood; Steven M. Fix; Patricia A. Lasky; Patrick E. Delmore; Tyler D. Leeper; Timothy D. Baker; Katherine R. Mitchell; Elizabeth A. Katt-Reinders and Patricia J. Gadow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the June Minutes made by Fix, seconded by Lasky. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals.

1. [39202](#) Report of the Chair

Katt-Reinders welcomed the invited speakers in attendance for the meeting and introduced them to the Committee.

2. [39306](#) Georgetown Energy Prize Competition

Kathy Kuntz, Executive Director of Cool Choices gave a presentation of Madison's efforts to win the Georgetown Competition, which is a national challenge to communities to implement sustainability measures.

She went through an example game with the committee around making "green" choices.

Presently the competition is centered on City employee team competition through the summer. It shall expand to the full community in the Fall. The COE could help roll it out to the community and the COE could be interested in the data obtained through the competition.

There is a national prize of \$5 million to be awarded by Georgetown University, with other prizes also to be determined.

3. [39203](#) Madison Water Utility: High Efficiency Toilet Rebate Program and Conservation Efforts

Amy Barrilleaux of the Madison Water Utility discussed ongoing water conservation measures and initiatives of the Water Utility. The Water Utility will be proposing a tiered rate structure for single family residentially metered properties. The desire of the rate structure is to encourage water conservation and encourage customers to become more aware of water usage and daily decisions related to water usage. Customers are now able to monitor their usage daily or even hourly online. Of the approximate 65,000 customers, about 4,000 have used the website and about 1,000 have set alerts regarding usage. Amy has a short term goal of getting these numbers up to 8,000 using the website and 3,000 getting alerts.

Amy also briefly discussed the success of the toilet rebate program. It is estimated that the program has saved the equivalent energy use of 250 homes for a year. In recent years, use of the program has started to decrease, but it is still planned to be continued.

The biggest water savings a homeowner can realize, is typically from irrigation and inefficient fixtures.

The Committee discussed how they could help with the water conservation goals – steer the public to “Cool Choices” and steer the public to using the Water Utility’s online tool. Tyler suggested preparing a short message for Alders to use / send out to their respective constituents, then follow with an article in the Fall when “Cool Choices” is rolled out to the community.

Elizabeth asked the Committee members to voluntarily track their own water use. The committee may be able to tell stories of what members did and found out. The stories generated may be more impactful for reaching other residents. Elizabeth shall work up a draft for individual review and comment by the Committee members.

4. [38904](#) Appoint COE member as representative to Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Motion made by Pat Gadow, seconded by Pat Lasky, that Tim Baker be appointed as Committee representative to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

5. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Nothing to report.

6. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD

Nothing to report.

7. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tim Baker reported that the SWAC did meet. They reviewed the annual report on solid waste. The City is working on siting a digester for an expansion of the Organics pilot program. It is expensive and presently not funded. The City may look at working with other adjacent Municipalities.

8. [14746](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY

Nothing to report.

9. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Gadow, seconded by Lasky. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.