



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, November 18, 2013

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 103A (City-County Building)
Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 -

Sue Ellingson; Steven M. Fix; Patricia A. Lasky; Mike DePue; Jennifer L. Giegerich; Timothy D. Baker and James P. Bennett

Absent: 1 -

Patricia J. Gadow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Lasky, seconded by Bennett, to Approve the Minutes.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Staff handed out an email from Ron Shutvet to COE Members regarding Rhythm and Booms (attached).

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

1. [31692](#) Proposed 2014 Rhythm & Booms Event

Attachments: [Movement of Rhythm & Booms to Lake Monona: Review of Potential Health Spreadsheet by Jim Carrier to COE members](#)
[Midwest Env Justice Org, Sept 2013](#)
[Env Fact Sheet by NH Dept of Env Services, 2008](#)
[Rhythm & Booms on Lake Monona](#)
[Madison Festivals Inc Presentation](#)
[Statement from Katie Crawley, Madison Mayor's Office](#)
[Jim Carrier Correspondence to COE members, 9/27/13](#)
[SanDiegoFireworksPermit.pdf](#)
[FIREWORK PERMITS ISSUED 2011 - 2013](#)
[Shutvet Email to COE, 11/14/13](#)

Ed Ruckreigel, Madison Fire Dept., gave a summary of the fireworks permitting process. Some of the required information includes a list of devices to be used, knowledge and experience of the pyrotechnicians and their licenses to purchase and possess fireworks. Generally the Fire Dept. is most concerned about safety and thus far has not included stipulations regarding clean up. Most events are fairly small and there has not been an issue with debris. They

do prohibit plastic shells. They currently do not require a post-event log or report. The cost for a permit is \$200, which is issued to the pyrotechnic company, not the event organizer. Fire inspectors are present for larger events and if there is not a precedent of working with a group who has proven to be responsible.

There is currently no permitting requirements from the DNR for fireworks over water (or land).

Katie Crawley, Madison Mayor's Office, indicated that there are ongoing discussions about clean up post-event in 2014 for Rhythm and Booms that would include getting canoes and kayaks into the lake immediately after the event. Health and Engineering staff are also working on creating a monitoring plan for water quality, including perchlorate and metals. The clean up report and monitoring data would be provided to the Committee on the Environment for review.

Public Comment:

1. Rosemary Lee -- registered in favor of the Rhythm and Booms event, stating that the effects of fireworks are minimal compared to other pollution sources and it is an event made available to all families, regardless of income.

2. Karen Matteoni -- registered in opposition to Rhythm and Booms event, stating the impacts to air quality is a serious concern for asthmatics. By holding the event over Lake Monona, we are sending pollution downstream (and dilution is not the solution). There is no way to collect all the trash with canoes. An alternative would be to hold it over land or to use lasers instead.

After some discussion regarding jurisdiction and recommendations, committee members agreed that there appears to be a good faith effort on the part of the event coordinators to provide adequate post-event clean up and there is support for city/county staff to continue working together to formulate a plan for monitoring. The committee will continue to receive updates from the Mayor's office and will review the post-event information regarding clean up, and monitoring before making any further recommendations for changes.

- 2. [32177](#) Discussion of a possible sentinel species for Madison area lakes

Attachments: [Possible Sentinel Species, 11/3/13 Email](#)

The committee reviewed Alder Ellingson's email that summarized feedback from three local experts on fauna that could be considered for a sentinel species (attached). Further discussion included possible bird species, amphibians, and fish species. The committee is interested in pulling together a list of 5-10 species for other groups to consider before putting it out to a public survey. We will follow up at a future meeting.

- 3. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

None

- 4. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD:

None

5. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

In 2015 the home compost collection pilot program will expand to 1600 homes before going citywide in 2016. The home of the future bio-digester will be the former Cub Foods property near Hwy 51/Hwy 30. There will also be space for city fleet vehicles.

6. [14746](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY:

Continue to discuss Kipp property and monitoring issues.

7. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

New member Elizabeth Katt-Reinders will be official in December.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Lasky, seconded by Ellingson, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.