



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

5:00 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Conference Room 108 (City County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by co-chair Fey at 5:00 pm.

Present: 7 - Greg L. Rosenberg; Aislynn H.C. Miller; Annette M. Nekola; Sharon Lezberg; Nan Fey; Danna J. Olsen and Jill Schneider

Absent: 1 - Steve King

Others Present: Madelyn Leopold, Karen von Huene, Mark Woulf, Jule Stroick, Tom Favour, Cindy Statz, Patricia Soderholm, Jim Baumann, Janette Rosenbaum

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nekola made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/4/2015 with corrections. Rosenberg seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL

[40058](#)

Accepting the Pollinator Protection Task Force Report as the guiding document for the City of Madison to address the issue of pollinator decline and directing the Madison Food Policy Council, with assistance of city staff, to implement the recommendations contained within the report.

Attachments: [Pollinator Protection Task Force Report Final.pdf](#)
[statement to pollinator committees \(2\).pdf](#)
[Pollinator Memo.pdf](#)

Lezberg made a motion to recommend Approval of the Pollinator Protection Task Force Report with the addition of references to the Terrace Rain Garden Program, Edible Landscape and Terrace Planting Ordinances in Policy #2(c) on page 27. Schneider seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.

[39335](#)

Adopting the University Hill Farms Neighborhood Plan as a supplement to the City of Madison's Comprehensive Plan.

Attachments: [Map 1 University Hill Farms Neighborhood Plan Study Area.pdf](#)
[Map 2 Overlapping Areas with Previously Adopted Neighborhood Plans.pdf](#)
[UHF plan 8-18-15.pdf](#)
[LtrDOAUHFPlan06-10-15.docx](#)
[UHFNPReport090215.pdf](#)
[Public Comment re UHF Plan & Hamilton School-PBMVC 10.27.15.pdf](#)
[Additional comment re UHF Plan & Hamilton School-PBMVC 11.24.15.pdf](#)
[CGC recommendations-Univ Hill Farms - PBMVC 11.24.15.pdf](#)
[Schmidt memo to PBMVC re UHF & CGC recommends-PBMVC 11.24.15.pdf](#)
[Sheboygan Avenue Community Garden-Info Handout.pdf](#)
[Registration slips-E.1. PBMVC 11.24.15.pdf](#)
[CGC recs on Hill Farms Plan 12-01-15.pdf](#)
[Capitol City Band Association Letter for Plan Commission Meeting December](#)
[University Hill Farms Association Letter for Plan Commission Meeting Decem](#)
[Sustainable Madison Committee Report 11-16-15.pdf](#)
[Favour Comment.pdf](#)
[Planning Division Staff Report 12-07-15 Final.pdf](#)
[CGC Responses to Staff Report 12-07-15.pdf](#)
[01052016 Comm Garden Committee item 65.pdf](#)

Jule Stroick from City Planning came to present the mid-range Neighborhood Plan. Stroick explained that a steering committee met for about two years and conducted a public participation process. Stroick pointed out a few areas that were looked at for community gardens including Garner Park, Glen Stevens, Rennebohm Park, and the Karen Arms site in the long term. The community did not make a specific recommendation.

Tom Favour, who worked on the neighborhood plan, explained that people in the neighborhood are not necessarily open to losing space in Rennebohm Park to a garden. They are sympathetic to the cause, but do want to retain park land. Favour presented the potential to change Vernon Boulevard to park area.

The committee discussed and asked questions. Collecting the input, Fey made a motion to recommend approval of the Neighborhood Plan with the following four recommendations.

Page 43 – Add to the second Recommendation in the Karen Arms Site section so it reads as follows:

“Additional park space including usable area for community gardens.”

Page 55 – Add to the first Recommendation in the Natural and Agricultural Resources section on Community Gardens so it reads as follows:

•Identify potential additional locations for community gardens in Garner and Rennebohm Parks, the Vernon Boulevard median, and explore other locations on public lands in the planning area.

- o Garner Park recommendations include this on page 57 (#8)
- o Rennebohm Park could be added on page 60 in a final bullet point
- o Vernon Boulevard on page 41, first bullet point would read “Vernon Boulevard converted to community garden space”

Page 57 – Regarding Garner Park, community gardens (#8) should be considered a higher priority than prairie restoration (#3).

Page 60 – Add a Rennebohm Park Recommendation that reads as follows:
“Interim space for Sheboygan Community Garden should be provided for the 2016 and 2017 growing seasons while the potential for permanent space is found on public land within a walkable distance of its current location.”

Nekola seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

[40457](#) Review Mission of Community Gardens Committee October 2015 Update

Fey provided drafts of documents the committee is using to analyze the progress on recommendations made in 1999 and the current entities that may be able to take responsibility for “ongoing issues” as a foundation for discussion in December.

OLD BUSINESS

[40458](#) New Garden Fund Issues October 2015

No Update

[40459](#) Status of Community Gardens Program October 2015

Karen von Huene (Executive Director of Community GroundWorks) reported that the Gardens Network is in better shape. Leases have been ironed out and they are talking about how to make adding sites happen much more quickly. The Advisory Team of the Gardens Network had one meeting that got everybody up to speed. The next meeting will be in January. Currently one of the biggest tasks is the 2016 Garden Summit, tentatively scheduled for February.

[40460](#) Sheboygan Gardens Update October 2015

Cindy Statz, coordinator of the Sheboygan Community Garden, reported that they were able to salvage the garden’s assets, including the shed and lumber for raised beds, in a location available for one winter. Statz handed out a map showing the neighborhood locations of current gardeners and spoke to the need to find a place for the Sheboygan Garden to relocate and stay. The handout also provides Background, Mission, Objectives, Demographics and Attributes of the gardens. She asked that discussions be open to looking at Rennebohm Park as a whole, rather than just the portion proposed in 2008 that was deemed unsafe due to run-off.

Pat Soderholm: Pat Soderholm was a gardener at the Sheboygan garden. She reported that gardeners offered perennials to schools, food pantries, churches, etc. and they received a gratifying response from the neighborhood.

Members of the committee asked questions of speakers prior to consideration of the University Hill Farms Neighborhood Plan (#39335).

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

- [40461](#) Food Policy Council Update October 2015
- Woulf reported that the Business Plan for the Public Market was approved, with the next question being timing.
- [40462](#) Parks Update October 2015
- No Update
- [40463](#) CDBG Update October 2015
- No Update
- [40464](#) Planning Update October 2015
- No Update
- [40465](#) New Garden Fund October 2015
- No Update
- [40466](#) Garden Report October 2015
- Schneider reported that a meeting is scheduled for October 29 to begin planning for the Summit and members of the Gardens Coalition were invited to attend to give their input. Schneider reported inconsistent responses year to year when calling the Streets Department to pick up beginning- and end-of-season garden debris from community gardens. The last communication to garden leaders was in 2013 after George Dreckmann indicated to Schneider the best method would be to have each garden contact either the East or West Streets Department when they had debris to pick up. Schneider will discuss the topic at an upcoming Gardens Coalition meeting to get input from garden leaders on the process. She will draft a suggested process and send to Woulf to share with Chris Kelley in the Streets Department.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [40492](#) Accepting Nominations for the 2015 Jeffrey Clay Erlanger Award
- Attachments:** [erlanger info with app 2015.pdf](#)
- Fey explained the Erlanger award and encouraged members to nominate “unsung heroes” they’re aware of in their community.

ADJOURNMENT

Lezberg made a motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm. Nekola seconded the motion.
Motion passed by a voice vote.