



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, November 18, 2019

4:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Kenneth G. Johnson; Patrick E. Delmore; Tyler D. Leeper; Elizabeth A. Bookland and Dea Larsen Converse

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Larsen Converse, seconded by Johnson, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

none

NEW BUSINESS

1 Statement from the Mayor

Mayor Sayta provided an overview of the City's current government structure which includes approximately 900 resident spots on various Boards, Commissions, and Committees and her desire to combine committees and make better use of time of resident volunteers and Alders. Alder Foster proposed to collapse the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, and the ordinance is in motion to do so. Mayor Sayta is looking to combine COE with Sustainable Madison Committee, though no ordinance has been proposed yet. Having fewer committees would give them more power. She asked members to summarize what the committee is currently working on that would need to be forwarded on to other committees as well as if members would be interested in serving on other committees. She is looking to appoint members to SMC that have environmental backgrounds beyond energy. The mayor's office is looking to create a draft ordinance about consolidation over the next 3-4 months.

COE members had a follow up discussion. Members don't want to fight to keep COE as it is, as the committee doesn't have "teeth" and has little connection with the Common Council, but they are afraid with consolidation that environmental items will slip through the cracks because of SMC's size. Members agree that the City doesn't have regulatory jurisdiction over many of the water bodies, but does have management responsibility of the impact to them. These impacts come from decision made in zoning, housing, transportation, and engineering. Members will be drafting an official statement to the Mayor's office regarding their opinion of what should happen to the committee as it moves forward. Priority areas to be included in the statement include: water quality, stormwater drainage, salt, land use, environmental integrity (natural areas), and ground water.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2 [57098](#) Small Engine Tool Emissions and Lawn Tool Exchange Program

Attachments: [DRAFT Lawn Tool Rebate Program Outline.pdf](#)

Due to time restraints, this Miscellaneous was Deferred to the December 16th meeting.

3 [54745](#) Follow Up Discussion on Salt Issues

Stacie Reece, City of Madison Sustainability Coordinator, informed the committee that the Facility Management team is under new management. With such, they are now having monthly meetings and discussing how to upgrade city facilities to meet sustainability goals including HVAC, lighting, and water softeners. Stacie also gave an update on MMSD efforts including updates for the water softener app, Town of Dunn/McFarland "cash for clunkers" program to incentivize old water softener replacement, and Fitchburg doing a co-branded letter to residents about replacing old water softeners.

REPORTS

[42158](#) Report of Chair

none

[42161](#) Report from Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Bookland reported that there is a proposal going to the Common Council on 11/19/19 to disband the SWAC. She also provided a summary of the latest organic composting program trial. Pilot was very successful.

[42159](#) Report from Board of Public Works

Johnson reported that the BPW discussed the F35s and requiring that the National Guard clean up the PFA contaminated soil.

[42160](#) Report from Water Utility Board

Delmore provided an update on the PFAs discussion. Well #15 is still closed. DNR is advising changes to the EPA advisory level of 70ppt.

[42162](#) Report from Board of Health for Madison and Dane County

none

[42163](#) Staff Report

Eberhardt reported that there was a new Alder elected for District 8, Sally Rohrer.

ADJOURNMENT