



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE

Monday, May 20, 2013

4:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 10 -

David Ahrens; Hans J. Hinke; Lance E. Green; Richard J. Pearson; Jesse J. Shields; Anya M. Firszt; Jeannette E. LeZaks; Lou W. Host-Jablonski; Richard A. Heinemann and John M. Conowall

Absent: 5 -

Ann Grodnik-Nagle; John M. Robinson; Sam J. Breidenbach; David A. Albino and Selamawit Z. Wondaferew

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Firszt motioned to approve the minutes - it was seconded by Pearson and unanimously approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

[30011](#)

Resilient Communities for America Agreement

Attachments: [RCAA Inaugural Invitation letter Soglin Madison.pdf](#)
[Resilience Campaign Overview.pdf](#)
[Resilient Communities Agreement Letter.pdf](#)
[FAQ- RC4A.pdf](#)

A presentation on climate change and its impacts was made by Carolyn Betz, Program Manager, Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) at UW Madison Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies; Sally Kefer, Land Use Team leader, Bureau of Science Services, Division of Enforcement and Science, WDNR; and Lisa MacKinnon, sustainability coordinator and Audit Analyst, Office of Dane County Supervisors.

Betz's presentation was titled "The potential effects of climate change on the City of Madison" and highlighted the research of members of WICCI with regard to how climate change impacts are impacting us. WICCI has 200 participants, 16 working groups, an advisory council, a science council and an outreach group. Their research uses 14 global change models and downscales the data to WI. The models indicate that winter and spring in WI and Madison have gotten warmer in the last 50 years. Summer and fall temperatures have been stable over that 50 + year period, although the data from 1980 forward indicates that average summer temperatures have increased 4-9 degrees. Heat wave related deaths have increased dramatically over the past 15 years nationwide.

These increasing temperatures have lead to increased intensity of rain events in summer and winter; more flooding, run-off and algae blooms; changes in growing seasons; increased northern movement of invasive insects and plants; and impacts on winter and summer recreation and tourism.

Kefer's presentation was titled "Climate Adaption" and looked at what type of planning and education is needed to not only mitigate climate change (through the reduction of green house gas emissions, but also create adaption plans that help people become more resilient in the ways that deal with climate change. The City's sustainability plan has a number of mitigation action items and alludes to adaption possibilities as well. Kefer highlighted the need to have an adaptive planning process in broader policy and operational plans like the Comprehensive Plan and emergency management plans. Climate change impacts like refuse from intense storm events, the need for local agricultural resilience with changed growing seasons and weather and water supply protection are all areas that can be included in adaptive planning. Several Climate Adaption Workshops are planned or have taken place around the state and more will be coming.

MacKinnon spoke on how the County was looking at ways to make itself more sustainable and resilient through the development of a Operations Sustainability Plan by all county agency heads. The County has a Climate Action Council focused on adaption planning that is currently doing a vulnerability assessment on where climate impacts will impact services and residents. Their report is due to the Board of Supervisors in September.

Discussion within the committee revolved around the way the City and county could work together to identify, mitigate and adapted to climate changes. Staff members will meet with Betz, Kefer and MacKinnon to develop a plan for collaboration. SMC may also look to hold a joint meeting with the Climate Change Action Council of their planning and look for ways that we can address climate change issues in a systematic way.

Ahrens stated that the Common Council should hear the presentation as well, perhaps at CCOC or at a pre-CC meeting session. Division and Department Heads would also be a good audience as we move forward on adaptive planning.

RESOLUTION: Motion to recommend the Mayor signing the Resilient Communities for America Agreement was made by LeZak and seconded by Green. Taking a systems approach to items like lake quality, run-off and infrastructure improvements was reinforced during discussion on the resolution.

SMC approved moving the resolution forward unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Shields moved to adjourn the meeting - the motion was seconded by Firszt. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.