



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Approved
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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

Monday, November 19, 2007

4:45 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Standridge called the meeting to order at 4:47 p.m.

Present: 8 -

Larry Palm; Michael W. Rewey; Bill Sonzogni; Jonathan H. Standridge;
Theresa Stabo; Roger T. Bannerman; Bruce C. Dickie and Reginald N.
Weide

Excused: 1 -

Keith W. Pierce

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

NEW BUSINESS

1. SUBSTITUTE - Creating Sections 27.05(2)(aa), (bb), (cc), and (dd) and Section 29.20(21) of the Madison General Ordinances to require bulbs with an energy efficiency of at least thirty (30) lumens in some common areas and dwelling units in residential buildings.

A motion was made by Sonzogni, seconded by Palm, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BUILDING CODE, FIRE CODE AND LICENSING APPEALS BOARD. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

DISCUSSION

Alder Palm gave a brief summary - this ordinance will require 3-unit or larger apartments to have light bulbs of 30-lumen efficiency or higher installed in all fixed fixtures (exceptions for chandeliers and other historic fixtures) and that "EXIT" signs be LED. The tenants are not required to keep these bulbs in place during their lease but must replace them or be charged to replace them when they move out.

The ordinance would not include outside fixtures. The ordinance sets a 'lumen standard', not a bulb type (does not have to be fluorescent). A majority of apartment owners have been working with Alder Palm on this and support it.

Sierra Club representative Ashley Brenke spoke in favor of the ordinance and handed out informational flyers.

2. Discuss Future Issues/Directions for Commission

DISCUSSION

Existing active sub-committees include:

- a) Salt-Use – waiting on action from the County Lakes & Watershed Commission

- b) Air Quality – has not met recently but a new meeting will be set up prior to the next COE meeting (scheduled Dec. 4)

- c) Soil Erosion Control – met once and needs to schedule a second meeting. They are awaiting a report from Mike Dailey to City Engineer Larry Nelson regarding the current status of the program.

Proposed area of interest included:

- a) Joint Lakes Plan – Chair Standridge will contact Jim Lorman of the Lakes & Watershed Commission to discuss what role the COE should/could have in this process, which has been funded by both County and City for the 2008 budget.

- b) Plastic Bags – discussion was that several US Cities ban the provision of plastic bags and many European Cities charge a surcharge if you take them from the store. There was much discussion regarding the amount of energy used to create these and that recycling options are limited at this time. Further, in many cases these become airborne pollutants – Unanimous support to put on future COE agenda.

- c) Ban on sale of bottled water at events – discussion was had on the amount of wasted plastic (hence resources) in using bottled water for events like Badger games, festivals, events on the Capital Square and the like. Several Cities – Ann Arbor and San Francisco have already implemented bans on this type. Unanimous support to put on future COE agenda.

- d) Ban on serving drinks in plastic cups (which are then mostly thrown away not recycled) – and the possibility of requiring biodegradable cups be used. Unanimous support to put on future COE agenda.

- e) Water Conservation (global) – suggestion was made to bring George Meyer to the COE to discuss his thoughts on how to move forward with global water conservation measures. Unanimous support to put on COE agenda to ask George to speak, at a winter/spring COE meeting.

3. Parking Lot and Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Training

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Bannerman gave a summary of the training that was held October 30. In general, the training was well received and attended. All attendees were very enthusiastic and made several suggestions on how to move forward. The most notable suggestion was that while they are willing to reduce application rates, many customers expect to see lots of salt applied. Training needs to happen for customers/public as well as applicators.

4. Representative Reports

DISCUSSION

Board of Public Works - None

Board of Water Commissioners - The new Water Utility department head should begin around Jan. 1

Solid Waste - None

Air Quality - None

Erosion Control - Will schedule next meeting after Dailey's report to City Engineer

Staff - None

ADJOURNMENT

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