



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
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## Meeting Minutes - Approved SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

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Monday, April 13, 2009

4:00 PM

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

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

**Present:** 13 -

Judy Compton; Sherrie Gruder; Michael J. Vickerman; Paul D. Muench; Catherine E. Mackin; David W. Drummond; Garrick R. Maine; David C. Boyer; Lou W. Host-Jablonski; Leslie C. Schroeder; Marc B. Kornblatt; Eric T. Truelove and Richard A. Heinemann

**Excused:** 2 -

Satya V. Rhodes-Conway and William Bremer

**Others present:** Jeanne Hoffman, City Staff

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### OLD BUSINESS

[13906](#)

Update of Building a Green Capital City Plan

Sherrie Gruder passed out a hand out regarding where we are in terms of Building a Green Capital City Plan.

Sherrie explained that many of the programs and goals have been met. In addition, the scope of work has changed, such as adopting a compelling vision to become a Zero Net Energy city by 2050, putting goals such as that into a new plan would be needed. Also, the updated/new plan needs more information on climate change and carbon. The City is also a Solar America City through the US Department of Energy - a grant to encourage solar, so we need more on renewable energy. There should also be conversations with the utilities. There may be some action items regarding the business and residential community that are dated or will not happen. The committee also needs to talk about the process to update the Blueprint.

Jeanne Hoffman explained that the update to the plan could include a public participation process and the once the plan is updated, a resolution would be drafted asking the Common Council to adopt the plan. The updated plan would be referred to many committees for more feedback. Finally, the Council would adopt the plan. Judy Compton asked if we are making a new plan or updating. Jeanne Hoffman indicated that is up to the committee.

Sherrie Gruder suggested updating the plan is all that is needed. Sherrie mentioned that the committee may break up into sub-committees and may need to meet every two weeks. The sub-committees could also bring in additional folks to help.

Paul Meunch asked what data is available to measure where we are?

Sherrie Gruder indicated that the City knows its energy use, but that the City has not calculated its carbon emissions yet, but plan to use the ICLEI Software. Sherrie also mentioned that a professor from the UW contacted the City about helping with this process. The class would help us with research and outreach.

Jeanne Hoffman indicated that her staff has put more of our time into projects and not measurement. Sherrie Gruder emphasized that the City have done a lot in terms of solar projects, green policies, etc.

Jeanne Hoffman also mentioned that a lot has changed since the last plan was written such as the economy, global warming, etc.

Sherrie Gruder also mentioned that the committee could meet during the day if that makes it easier for committee members to increase how much they participate.

Judy Compton indicated that members really need a progress report. She also suggested that everyone read and highlight issues in the plan that they would like to discuss at the next meeting. Jeanne Hoffman indicated that she would create a report for the next meeting.

Sherrie Gruder reminded the members that the committee at the last meeting discussed progress that has been made. The committee completed looking at what has been accomplished through Part A and now were going to look at Part B.

Sherrie asked if the committee would like to continue to go through the report. She wanted to keep enough time to talk about process.

Sherrie mentioned that we have adopted The Natural Step. The question is, how do we take it to the next level? Are there some agencies that need to develop more policies that are in line with TNS such as Overture, Metro, Fleet, and Parks? We should also look at developing annual reports.

Sherrie continued that the City has done a lot with FOE, LEED-NC, and LEED-EB projects. The City will be hiring a new person that can help analysis data to see if the City has reduced energy use by 10% by 2010. The City also doesn't have performance-based standards, such as saying that buildings will be 30% below ASHIRE. David Boyer suggested that in the assessment. Green means we did it, yellow means maybe, and red means we need work.

Marc Kornblatt suggested that in addition to the color that there is also some documentation so we know why this item has certain color.

Sherrie mentioned that the committee did an update last year that Good for Business put together. Jeanne Hoffman will send-out update to committee soon.

Sherrie Gruder suggested that the committee continue to go through the report. The report suggested requiring LEED for TIF projects.

Jeanne gave an updated on TIF policy, where basically the TIF policy says that the Council can go above the 50% increment rule for any reason it wants to.

Judy Compton had to leave but wanted to let everyone know that she has asked her neighborhoods to get together to talk about how the can lower CO2 emissions.

Jeanne Hoffman indicated that the committee needs to put concepts or goals like zero net energy into a plan before the committee tries to put it into a resolution. You need to have it in a plan so that there is a place to educate.

Garrick Maine suggested the City should measure so we know where we are. It will also be a good educational tool. AIA is trying to get all firms to get to carbon free by 2030 but how do you measure it? There is a lot of information out there about carbon neutral developments. What are other cities doing?

Sherrie Gruder indicated that it will be important to find out from the public what they think are important ways to measure sustainability. Maybe it is asthma rates in kids or levels of mercury in fish.

Garrick Maine indicated that once the City has that, the City could then educate people.

Sherrie asked for volunteers. Who wants to help put together a framework of sustainability for the future neighborhood meetings? Garrick Maine, Sherrie Gruder, Marc Kornblatt, Lou Host-Jablonski, Eric Truelove, Cathy Mackin from MGE, Richard Heinemann, and David Drummond volunteered.

Sherrie Gruder looked over the report again and suggested another thing we need to do is educate City staff more on FOE, LEED and other green policies.

Sherrie Gruder mentioned that through the Mpowering Madison program that the City (along with partners) is working with businesses to lower CO2 emissions. Julia Voss has been working with businesses on green building from a financial perspective and Sherrie had Julia come and talk at the meeting with the Mpowering Businesses. Sherrie mentioned that seven businesses, funded through an EPA grant and other donations are learning how to lower CO2 emissions through education and peer-to-peer learning.

Julia Voss indicated that the firms are different with some having a lot of equipment and some just an office. The business will be able to reduce their costs through energy savings. The people at the meetings take back what they learned to the company. There are ways for your company to reduce cost and some of these things can be financed.

Sherrie Gruder is hoping to have a program/workshop in the fall, which will bring in business that have made progress and also have FOE and MGE/Alliant and the financial institutions there. There may be things the City can do to incentives green such as fee-bates.

Jeanne Hoffman indicated that staff is looking at this as part of the Northeast Neighborhoods Plan.

Marc Kornblatt indicated that additional staff might be needed to help with education and outreach.

Sherrie Gruder also indicated that we need to work other groups and collaboratively.

David Drummond, Sherrie Gruder and Jeanne Hoffman discussed what EnAct is. Sherrie Gruder again suggested that the updated plan needs to ramp up our work with residents and businesses. Leslie Schroeder indicated that the plan could look at food – local foods, greenhouses, roof loads for growing, community gardens, and fruit-bearing trees. Michael Vickerman wanted to know if there is a committee looking at this? Jeanne Hoffman indicated that there is a community gardens committee and that Parks Commission would deal with trees and zoning code rewrite is looking at greenhouses and roof top gardens, etc.

Sherrie reminded the committee that the goal for the last plan – per the Mayor, was for the City of Madison to become a national leader for energy efficiency and renewable energy that also supports the city's economic vitality.

Sherrie also reminded the committee that Peter brought up transportation at the last meeting.

Jeanne Hoffman indicated that this is a large part of our carbon footprint. Garrick Maine wanted to know if there is a business group that we could get some feedback from.

Sherrie Gruder, Garrick Maine and Jeanne Hoffman discussed that engaging non-profits will be important but so will engaging the business community.

David Boyer stated that we need a plan that clearly states where we are and what are we going to do. He is interested in having the plan include that 20% of activities that will really make progress for the community.

Paul Meunch agreed that the current blueprint is too diffuse, and we don't have the metrics that we need to know what we should be implementing.

Michael Vickerman did some quick calculations and with MGE Green Power Program the community has lower CO2 emissions by 50,000 tons. David Boyer agreed yes, we have done a lot.

Marc Kornblatt noted that the report is overwhelming. We need a checklist of action items that we should do, and then we bring in the experts to get their opinions. Say a five page document of what we have done, and what we are going to do, and then take that out to other folks for review.

## NEW BUSINESS

### [14369](#)

City Attorney Memo re: Berkeley Financing Initiative for Renewable and Solar Technology

Jeanne Hoffman gave update on Berkeley model. She will send a powerpoint presentation from Berkeley to committee when available. Michael Vickerman is not sure if this is good, because solar doesn't always work. Why not put solar on during new construction and wrap it into the mortgage? Jeanne pointed out that the program in Berkeley would include energy efficiency too!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

## ADJOURNMENT