



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Draft
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

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

Monday, December 17, 2007

4:45 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 8 -

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

Excused: 1 -

Roger T. Bannerman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Local Use of Plastic Bags

Discussion only

George Dreckman, Streets Department, was present to give information on what can be done regarding the use of plastic bags. Some cities have already looked at this issue and have taken action to minimize the use of plastic bags. Dreckman listed several possible actions:

- 1- Ban plastic bags
- 2- Require stores to take back bags
- 3- Provide location for drop-off

Requiring stores to take back their bags would be similar to the requirement to take back fluorescent bulbs, and so wouldn't be a dramatic shift. The city is not equipped to collect bags through regular recycling because they get caught in equipment. Also, requiring a city-managed drop off site would require more staff. Dreckman would recommend looking at the second option, requiring stores to take them back.

Commission members wanted to know more about the barriers to taxing bags (currently not permitted in Wisconsin), what banning would entail, and the possibility of a deposit for bags. Dreckman agreed to do some more research and return to a future meeting for more discussion.

REPORTS

- 2. REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS:
No updates

- 3. REPORT FROM BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS:
No updates

- 4. REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
No updates

- 5. REPORT FROM AIR QUALITY SUBCOMMITTEE:
Sucommittee met early this month and discussed rekindling the school idling issue. Commissioner Stabo has had contact with school board member Maya Cole.

- 6. REPORT FROM EROSION CONTROL SUBCOMMITTEE:
No updates

- 7. REPORT FROM STAFF:
The recent Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling on requiring detailed agenda items was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

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