



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, May 16, 2011

4:30 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: 9 -

Ald. Anita Weier; Steven M. Fix; Patricia A. Lasky; Dan Melton; Lori O. Grant; Roger T. Bannerman; James P. Bennett; Reginald N. Weide and Keith W. Pierce

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

1. [21481](#) To approve the Madison Sustainability Plan.

Sue Jones, from the Lakes and Watershed Commission and Garrick Maine made a presentation regarding the draft sustainability plan. Noting that as a result of some of the comments from other groups, there will now be an attempt to collate all the questions received and all the background data and publish it as an appendix to the report.

There were multiple questions and comments from the group, including but not limited to comments agreeing with existing comment #11 on the website from Planning (Mike Waidelich) that the plan seems uncomfortable between recommending actions and listing actions currently being taken, to comments regarding conflicts between this plan and currently adopted plans.

A motion was made by Fix, seconded by Lasky, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

2. [21400](#) Discussion - Radon Testing

John Hausbeck, from City/Co Health reported that after discussion with groups representing and made up of owners and operators of multi-unit rental properties it is clear that more education is needed on the dangers of radon. It is reasonably clear that these groups would not support legislation requiring testing of properties and that they do not track the number or locations of rental properties sold in Dane Co. Health will continue to advocate/educate for radon testing at the time of sale for potential property purchasers and from current residents in existing homes.

3. [22418](#) Health effects of fire pits

John Hausbeck and Greg Fries, of City Engineering, reported that this issue has come up previously and was looked at by the Board of Health. At that time, it was decided that specific regulation regarding fire pits was not required and that these features would be regulated in the same manner as a charcoal grill, or indoor fire place. The current ordinance prohibits nuisance use of these items but how that is enforced is a question for Ed Ruckriegel at the Fire Department. This item was forwarded to the Committee by Alder Rummel and Greg will contact her regarding the discussion.

4. [18528](#) Discussion of Environmental Impacts of Fireworks Residue

Lori Grant reported that she send a letter to the Mayor regarding this issue and the testing that the COE is lobbying for and had not gotten a response at this time. Greg indicated that he would send the letter directly to the new Mayoral Aide for public works.

5. [22419](#) Erosion Control Inspections - Discussion

This item was placed on the agenda by Roger Bannerman at the request of Mr. David Thompson of 576 Gately Terrace who registered to speak on this topic. Mr. Thompson spoke regarding the erosion control and the improvements that he believes could be made to the City's efforts on public projects. There was general discussion by members including discussion by Greg Fries indicating that a number of the recommendations made by Mr. Thompson were very good ideas and had been implemented. The Committee thanked Mr. Thompson for his work and Lori Grant requested that we bring an erosion control update back to the Committee during September and that this become an annual report.

6. [08477](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Noted erosion control complaint on Williamson St, the 'B-cycle' program and where the vending locations will be set up, and the expansion of the park and ride at Stoughton and the Beltline.

7. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD:

A new well is being sought on the SE side; contamination from the old Ohio Medical (Ohmeda) is an issue; a new well on the east side, possibly at or near MATC is also being sought.

8. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The sustainability plan came before them and was discussed extensively as was the need for a new county landfill in the next 5-10 years (note the need is in 5-10 years so siting studies should be ongoing).

9. [14746](#) REPORT FROM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR MADISON AND DANE COUNTY:

The director has resigned and it will be approximately 6 months for a new hire; the issue of PCE contamination at Madison Kipp was discussed, as was the Parks Department goose management plan.

10. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

Request to reauthorize Lori Grant, and to find a replacement for Keith are in the Mayor's office. The Committee voted to re-elect Lori as the Chair (Fix/Weide/unanimous) and elected Steve Fix as Vice-chair (Melton/Lasky/unanimous).

ADJOURNMENT

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