



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE

Monday, June 15, 2015

4:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM following verification that the meeting was properly noticed and a quorum was present.

Others present: Jeanne Hoffman and Karl van Lith.

Present: 13 - David Ahrens; John M. Robinson; Lance E. Green; Sam J. Breidenbach; Richard J. Pearson; Jesse J. Shields; Anya M. Firszt; David P. Rhode; Chelsea Chandler; Richard A. Heinemann; Michael J. Vickerman; Bradley Campbell and Sophia S. Rogers

Excused: 5 - Hans J. Hinke; John M. Conowall; Rajan V. Shukla; Zachary T. Schuster and Jeannette E. LeZaks

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

1. [38755](#) EAB - Presentation by Marla Eddy, City Forestry. Marla will present on EAB mitigation efforts by the City.

Attachments: [City of Madison 2015 General Neighborhood Presentation.pdf](#)

Marla Eddy presented a PowerPoint (attached) on EAB mitigation efforts by the City. The City has been planning for the EAB infestation response since 2008 and now is following the EAB Plan updated in 2012.

A third of all ash street trees (4,000) were injected with insecticide last summer and the remaining salvageable trees are being treated this summer. The city also removed 1700 untreatable ash trees last year. Replacement of the trees is scheduled to occur within three planting cycles. Park trees have not been treated as of yet and the Parks Department has created a fund for tree replacement in parks through the Parks Foundation. Trees with 30% canopy loss, trunk damage and under power transmission lines will not be treated per the EAB Response Plan. Ash trees with 30% canopy loss or under 10" trunk diameter at 4 feet, with trunk damage and all those under power transmission lines will not be treated per the EAB Response Plan.

Campbell asked about variation in tree species during replanting. Eddy responded that Parks Forestry now has 26 species that it picks from. The City has contracted with a nursery to grow a diverse tree stock that the City can use when replanting in the next few years. Discussion also occurred around replacement trees under power lines and whether they were adequate to provide shade to homes, sidewalk and additional aesthetics. Eddy stated that the smaller trees will provide shade, beauty and are of a shape that will require less trimming by utilities. Forestry is required by State law to allow tree trimming by utilities. Some discussion occurred around undergrounding transmission wires, but the cost of retrofitting the existing wires is very high and not economically possible at this point. Milwaukee's approach is to treat all city ash trees, while Minneapolis has decided to remove all of their ash trees. Homeowners cannot provide funds to save an ash tree in their boulevard.

Ash trees on private lots will eventually have to be treated or removed. Some trees are being re-used for structural elements but most will be ground up as wood chips (other uses?)

Equity issues were also raised by the committee around how costs within certain less economically advantaged neighborhood parks and neighborhood private parcels might be handled. The Council and Parks are conscience of these issues and will review them when developing additional policies and practices when dealing with invasive species and associated mitigation efforts.

A motion was made to Discuss and Finalize. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

2. [38756](#) Madison Municipal Building and JDS Presentation by Jeanne Hoffman, City Engineering. Jeanne will present information on the pre-design work that was done for MMB and also some preliminary information on the JDS development.

Item was referred to next meeting as Jeanne Hoffman was unable to attend this meeting.

A motion was made to Refer to the SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE and should be returned by 7/20/2015. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. [38757](#) Follow-up discussion on Capstone inventories.

Limited discussion, but committee felt presentations were useful and that inventories should be followed up upon in future. Inventories should be added into the Energy Plan.

A motion was made to Discuss and Finalize. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

4. Brief Updates on Benchmarking Collaboration Ad-Hoc Committee, Georgetown Energy Competition, Energy Plan.

Ahrens reported that the committee voted to have benchmarking be voluntary, not mandatory. Some discussion by committee that voluntary programs do not have a lot of participation and may not be effective at reducing energy consumption. Breidenbach said he could talk to Chamber members to see about building more business support for mandatory benchmark reporting. Ahrens felt vote would stay as is and that Council would have to consider recommendation after SMC reviews ordinance idea again.

5. [38878](#) Establishing a Solar Loan Program.

Staff is pulling together a draft of a solar loan program. Ahrens moved to have the SMC authorize the program. Pearson seconded. Discussion around concept and need for authorization to go to Council vote on June 16, 2015.

A motion was made by Ahrens, seconded by Pearson, to Return to Lead with the Recommendation for Approval to the BOARD OF ESTIMATES. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.