



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Sustainable La Crosse Commission

Thursday, June 16, 2016

5:00 PM

5th Floor Conference Room

Call to Order, Roll Call

Rick Cornforth replaced Keyla Jones-Rosa on the Commission and was excused from this meeting.

Present: 6 - Jai Johnson, Mike Giese, Harvey Bertrand, Dave Niemi, Tom Thompson, Dorothy Lenard

Excused: 2 - Martin Gaul, Rob Tyser

- 1 [16-0541](#) Approval of April 21, 2016 Minutes

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Bertrand, seconded by Johnson, that the Minutes be APPROVED . The motion carried by voice vote.

- 2 **Public Comment**

A citizen attending the meeting asked about solar power in the area and the use of the gas at the brewery.

Agenda Items:

- 3 **Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

There was a motion by Johnson, seconded by Lenard to refer this matter until the next meeting. On voice vote, motion carried. Leonard noted the web summary of the make-up of the committee should indicate who the appointed citizens represent and also to correct the start dates of existing appointees.

Present: 8 - Jai Johnson, Mike Giese, Martin Gaul, Harvey Bertrand, Dave Niemi, Tom Thompson, Dorothy Lenard, Rob Tyser

- 4 **Staff Reports and Informational Updates**

Jason Gilman provided an update on the progress MSA is making on the 2015 Indicators report, noting key findings so far and that the information will be presented to the Council Planning Session July 12, 2016.

- 5 **Community Solar Gardens Program - Mike Herro, Xcel Energy**

Alex Lueck from Xcel energy was in attendance on Mike Herro's behalf. Mr. Lueck provided an overview of Xcel Energy's solar initiative in Western Wisconsin:

2-1MW gardens planned-1 in La Crosse and 1 in Eau Claire
Each solar garden is about 8 acres in size
There are 800 customers signed up for the program so far
Each garden allows for a subscriber to receive energy credits on their energy bill, without the burden of constructing and maintaining an individual system
There are 3,225 panels in each garden, with each panel creating 310 watts of energy
The solar gardens are expected to be operational in early 2017
The solar subscriptions range from 200 watts minimum to 400 kilowatts maximum
There is a 1 time enrollment cost to subscribe
The cost of enrollment is \$1,780 per 1kw, with a \$200 deposit per kw.
A energy bill credit is given to subscribers of 7.4 cents per kw hour for residential and 6.9 cents per kw hour for commercial

6 Consideration of Sustainability program goals for fiscal year 2017

The chair encouraged the committee to bring ideas for 2017 goals forward at the next meeting in July.

7 Review City of Madison's Demolition Recycling and Reuse Plan

The chair noted this item was introduced by Habitat for Humanity and will be considered at the next meeting in July.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next meeting date is tentatively set for July 21st.

Adjournment

There was a motion by Johnson, seconded by Lenard to adjourn the meeting. On voice vote, motion carried.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.