



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

Thursday, March 17, 2022

4:30 PM

LifeSize Virtual Meeting Room

In efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be conducted through video conferencing. The meeting can be viewed by clicking this link (or typing the URL in your web browser address bar): <https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/4857797/a8c61270-e220-4ad3-a234-c76d9d7dde51>

If you wish to speak on an agenda item, you can do so as part of the virtual meeting. Contact the Planning & Development Department at the email or phone number below so we can provide you with the necessary information to join in.

Members of the public who would like to provide written comments on any agenda may do so by emailing kuhlmanl@cityoflacrosse.org, using a drop box outside of City Hall or mailing the Planning & Development Department, 400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse WI 54601. Questions, call 608-789-7361.

Call to Order / Roll Call

Mindel called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Lenard motioned to approve the minutes, Meehan seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Notices & Discussion

Staff provided an update on the banner art project. Artists submitted the final design and paleBLUEdot will print 4. The call to artists included a unveiling scheduled for 3/16, but that will be pushed back, likely within two weeks.

Mindel notified committee of 3/25 What's In Our Drinking Water? Symposium at Viterbo (virtual and in-person), with special guest speaker Erin Brockovich.

Agenda Items:

1 [22-0419](#) CAP Team Workshop A Review

Lenard noted only about half the team attend the workshop, and some left early from the 4-hour-long workshop; she suggested polling why people are not able to attend and ensuring that there are breaks. Van Maren suggested we look into in-person meetings to get more engagement. She also expressed an interest in discussing other sub-team topics. The committee could review the full list of feedback and suggest some synthesis. Staff shared that the Meeting-in-a-box is now ready; Van Maren recommended fixing some of the community references to make sure they say La Crosse.

- 2 [22-0216](#) PiE outreach and engagement updates
- Staff provided update that business postcards had been sent out and encouraged committee to reach out to business owners they know. Meehan suggested asking the CAP Team to reach out as well. Van Maren suggested sharing PiE resources with developers who are working on new projects. The Word documents in FileCloud should be editable like a Google Doc. Mindel suggested a joint press release with Xcel about the program.*
- 3 [22-0427](#) Discussion on possible resolution to reduce future fossil fuel infrastructure.
- Attachments:** [20220317 Draft Resolution](#)
 [SAFE Cities Webpage](#)
- Staff shared that a council member's constituents had urged them to join SAFE Cities. Resolution is based on template at attached website. Staff asked for feedback on resolution by next meeting. Mindel suggested including inclusion of La Crosse's science-based targets. Meehan suggested using up-to-date, and precise data. Van Maren suggested reference to Ready for 100 resolution.*
- 4 [22-0422](#) Discussion on possible resolution to divest from publicly traded fossil fuel companies.
- Attachments:** [20220317 Draft Resolution](#)
- Staff requested feedback by next meeting. Lenard suggested making resolution more succinct (under a page). Mindel suggested finding cities of similar size that have adopted divestment resolutions. Van Maren suggested avoiding politically controversial language; Lenard agreed because it may shut down conversation. Meehan suggested using updating some statistics, and talking about job growth and energy freedom. Mindel suggested looking at language from Transit Equity Day proclamation.*

Next Meeting / Agenda Items

The next meeting will be April 21st. Agenda items may include workshop recap, PiE implementation, fossil fuel resolutions, and Earth Fair preparation. Van Maren also suggested revisiting what building projects receiving City funds are in development and how the CAPSC can influence their climate impact.

Adjournment

Meehan motioned to adjourn at 5:34 pm, Lenard seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

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.