



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

Thursday, April 21, 2022

4:30 PM

Grandad Room

This meeting will also 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

Mindel called the meeting to order at 4:43 pm.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Cathy Van Maren, Casey Meehan, Susanna Hanson, Mackenzie Mindel

Excused: 1 - Dorothy Lenard

Approval of Minutes

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

Notices & Discussions

Van Maren noted an Earth Day event on 4/22 at noon at City Hall. Meehan noted the Earth Fair on 4/24 at 11 am to 5 pm at Myrick Park. There are also cleanup events downtown and in the marsh on 4/23. Van Maren also noted a bike tour of Solar on La Crosse Schools on 4/23.

Agenda Items:

[22-0598](#)

CAP Team Workshop B Review

Van Maren reiterated need to start meetings with a purpose statement about reducing carbon emissions. Staff cited concern about lack of facilitators in subgroups to direct conversation. Meehan reiterated desire to cut length of workshops to 90 minutes

because later subgroup conversations lack engagement. Hanson expressed challenge of only addressing different sectors at the city scale. Staff will share review of Project Drawdown recommendations that could fit in CAP. Committee felt the Action Finder tool was a bit overwhelming and could use some curation or help with the filters. Mindel met with consultant to discuss how to incorporate Energy Action Plan Report into CAP.

[22-0216](#)

PiE outreach and engagement updates

*Staff will re-share list and schedule to CAPSC; ask Hutchins for list of assessments he's done, if possible to share. Staff will share requirements for LAPC applications for the Carbon Reduction Program. Van Maren asked for more information about where money for Renewable*Connect goes, so the City can change the perception about it. Meehan will look into getting information on grid cleanliness. Staff asked for help with*

- convene large energy users to share best practices. Gundersen and Trane could offer speakers; Rocky Mountain Institute likely has prepared presentations to share. Hanson suggested sharing case studies of where peers are taking action.*

22-0427

Resolution declaring a climate emergency, committing to policies opposing fossil fuel expansion and accelerating the clean energy transition, and endorsing the call for a global fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty.

Attachments: Resolution
SAFE Cities Webpage

Mindel suggested reaching out to groups in the community to speak in favor of this resolution; she can sponsor it as well.

Hanson motioned to recommend adoption of this resolution, Meehan seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

[22-0422](#)

Discussion on possible resolution to divest from publicly traded fossil fuel companies.

Attachments: [20220317 Draft Resolution](#)

Hanson asked about fossil fuels that are shifting to clean energy and if they would still be included in divesting. Committee members suggested framing it in terms of fossil fuel being a risky investment.

Meehan motioned to recommend this resolution be reviewed by the Finance Director for adoption, Van Maren seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Next Meeting / Agenda Items

The next meeting will be 5/19.

Adjournment

Mindel adjourned the meeting at 5:53 pm.

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.