



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

Monday, February 12, 2024

4:30 PM

Eagle Room

This meeting will also be conducted through video conferencing.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://cityoflacrosse-org.zoom.us/j/89556262687?pwd=TmzYMQRWEj7sOuWitzv04sLbpMOYp5.1>

Meeting ID: 895 5626 2687 Passcode: 102161

Join by Phone: +1-507-473-4847

Call to Order

Mindel called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Dorothy Lenard, Casey Meehan, Mackenzie Mindel, Andrew Ericson, Stephanie Hanna

Excused: 1 - Natalie Heneghan

Absent: 1 - Ronald Cosby II

Approval of Minutes

Notices & Discussion

Staff submitted the Climate Action Plan for consideration for the American Planning Association's Excellence in Sustainability Award, due Monday, February 5th. Mindel attended the Renew Wisconsin Summit on Thursday, February 1st.

Agenda Items:

- 1 [24-0078](#) Accept Code of Ethics

The Committee accepted the code of ethics.

- 2 [24-0258](#) Introduction of new committee member and election of vice chairperson

Staff read from Hanna biography on the Nature Place website. Mindel talked to Heneghan about serving as Vice Chairperson.

Mindel nominated Heneghan for Vice Chairperson. Since no other

nominations were made, Heneghan was elected by acclamation.

3 [24-0069](#) Funding Request for Renew the Block

Attachments: [Renew the Block Webpage](#)

Kaitlyn Wiehe presented on the Renew the Block project and shared a handout. Ericson asked for an explanation on the handout. Mindel asked about the cost per square foot of the rain garden (about \$17).

A motion was made by Lenard, seconded by Ericson, that this Request for \$43,000 be APPROVED. The motion carried by voice vote.

4 [24-0259](#) Request to use CAP Implementation Funds for Occupancy Sensors

Attachments: [Price Quote](#)

A motion was made by Ericson, seconded by Meehan, that this Request be APPROVED. The motion carried by voice vote.

5 [24-0065](#) Working Group Updates

Ericson did not have a working group 2 update and suggested considerations for eliminating parking minimums, requiring enclosed bike parking, and narrowing streets. Meehan shared that working group 3 had discussed stormwater credit policy changes. Wiehe discussed consideration of smaller requirements and credits. For example, one get a 40% credit for 4 rain barrels, so could there be a 20% credit for 2 rain barrels?

A motion was made by Ericson, seconded by Mindel, that staff shall draft a memo recommending changes to the stormwater credit policy for consideration at the March meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

6 [24-0256](#) Proposals for Energy Innovation Grant Applications

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

Staff has talked with Slipstream, Western Technical College, and La Crosse County about a level 3 micro grid and is seeking approval to pursue the planning grant.

Staff has talked with Green Homeowners United about residential energy audits and energy efficiency projects for residents making 60-80% AMI and is seeking approval to pursue an implementation grant.

A motion was made by Lenard, seconded by Ericson, that these Proposals be APPROVED. The motion carried by voice vote. Meehan abstained.

7 [24-0252](#) Discussion on Youth Climate Action Fund

Attachments: [Program Overview](#)

Mayor gave overview of the program.

A motion was made by Lenard, seconded by Ericson, that this Proposal be APPROVED. The motion carried by voice vote.

8 [24-0257](#) Action on LEED for Cities Local Government Leadership Program

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

Mindel gave an overview of the program.

A motion was made by Meehan, seconded by Lenard, that this General Item be APPROVED . The motion carried by voice vote.

9 [24-0067](#) Outreach & Engagement Update

The City collaborated with Climate Alliance for the Common Good on a sustainability planning workshop for small businesses and organizations held on Thursday, January 18th. Staff spoke at the Sustainability Institute's Sustainability Chat about the La Crosse Carbon Free Challenge on Bright Action on Thursday, February 8th. The challenge has a goal of signing up 250 households and reducing 100 tons of carbon by June. Meehan suggested working with the library on promotion and using social media; the Sustainability Institute will also promote it with their Green Goose Chase. Committee members also suggested a prize drawing, and developing tabling materials. Cathy Van Maren suggested promoting it at the Earth Fair.

Next Meeting / Agenda Items

The next meeting will be Monday, March 11th at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Mindel adjourned the meeting at 5:40 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.