



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes

### Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

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Thursday, February 17, 2022

4:30 PM

LifeSize Virtual Meeting Room

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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](mailto: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 4:36 pm.**

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 5 - Dorothy Lenard, Cathy Van Maren, Casey Meehan, Susanna Hanson, Mackenzie Mindel

#### Approval of Minutes

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

#### Notices and Discussion

#### Agenda Items:

- 1 [22-0214](#) Artist Proposal Review

**Attachments:** [Durr, Oehler, & Bergs Application](#)  
[Durr, Oehler, & Bergs Presentation](#)

*Durr, Oehler, and Bergs presented their slides and application. Meehan liked the future-oriented design proposal, infused with optimism; use design to push the envelope. Van Maren suggested posing the question, "Can we afford NOT to address climate change?" Lenard was reminded of Greg Mitchell's mural at Glasgow. Hanson asked for a refresher on what was included in the call for artists. After the artists are selected, they'd work with paleBLUe dot on a contract to design a digital image (or two)*

*Redmond would print on a banner (or two).*

**Van Maren motioned to select the Durr-Oehler-Bergs artist team, Lenard seconded. The motion carried by a voice vote.**

- 2     [22-0210](#)     Discussion and Action on Capital Improvement Program Budget Request of \$150,000 annually for Climate Action Plan Implementation

*Staff clarified that the Capital Improvement Program typically involves projects over \$10,000. Events would likely be under that amount and would fall in the operating budget. Lenard mentioned that in the past departments could build up an annual budget over several years to create a larger pool of money.*

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

- 3     [22-0215](#)     Vulnerability Assessment Meetings Recap

*Meehan felt the meeting got to be long and suggested more breaks or several shorter meetings. Lenard agreed and would rather have more frequent, shorter meetings--2 hours or less; she also suggested the text be larger in the presentations. Mindel agreed as well because parenting becomes a struggle during long meetings. She also suggested reminding participants to think big and not shoot down ideas yet. Van Maren felt there could be better cohesiveness in a retreat; participants aren't on in agreement on what's most important, what's reasonable, and what things will cost. Hanson was unable to attend the workshops, but had read some of the materials and asked how density impacts climate change; she also wondered about how the pandemic has impacted commuting and working from home. Van Maren would prefer not to have compartmentalized discussion when there is overlap in the different subgroup topics. Lenard wants the discussion to be more thorough.*

- 4     [22-0216](#)     PiE outreach and engagement updates

*Staff updated design review handbook and webpage to include energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electric vehicle resources. Postcards have not been sent out yet.*

- 5     [22-0223](#)     Discuss Development Going on in the City - Van Maren, Hanson

**Attachments:**     [Multi-Family Residential Housing Design Standard Handbook](#)  
[Commercial Design Standards Handbook](#)  
[Ordinance requiring economic development funding Include sustainability](#)

*Hanson shared requirements that other communities enacted on buildings for energy efficiency and renewable energy; WI preempts local building code regulations, though. Staff suggested looking at other communities in Wisconsin to find what would be allowed for regulating development. Eau Claire provides stretch codes that are not required, but can be used. Several communities require LEED standards on municipal buildings and municipally funded development, but it's only suggested for development in La Crosse.*

- 6     [22-0224](#)     Discuss Climate Action Plan Outreach to Educational Institutions - Van Maren

*Van Maren asked for ideas about outreach that could be done to get UWL and the*

*school district involved in the CAP. Lenard suggested developing a specific script or request to use; Van Maren can put one together.*

### **Next Meeting / Agenda Items**

*The next meeting will be March 17th. Agenda items may include recaps of CAP Team workshops, update on banner installation, and Partners in Energy outreach and engagement.*

### **Adjournment**

**Mindel adjourned the meeting at 5:54 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](mailto:ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org), with as much advance notice as possible.*