



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes

### Sustainable La Crosse Commission

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Thursday, October 19, 2017

4:30 PM

5th Floor Conference Room

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#### Call to Order

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

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 9 - Mike Giese, Harvey Bertrand, Tom Thompson, Dorothy Lenard, Rob Tyser, Rick Cornforth, Rick Diermeier, Patrick Brever, Cathy Van Maren

#### Approval of Minutes

Tyser made a motion, Thompson seconded, to approve the minutes. The motion carried by a voice vote.

#### Agenda Items:

- 1 [17-1356](#) Resolution recognizing climate change and urging Congress to levy a revenue-neutral fee on carbon in fossil fuels.  
  
**Attachments:** [Resolution](#)  
[Citizen's Climate Lobby Handouts](#)  
  
*Sleznikow gave a brief presentation. Van Maren compared it to putting a value or price on clean air. Brever asked for clarification on the fee and how it is returned. Tyser asked how it compares to past cap and trade proposals. Sleznikow responded that is much less prone to manipulation and is simpler. Diermeier asked about consumer impact. Sleznikow responded that increase in cost would be offset by dividend.*  
  
**Van Maren made a motion, Cornforth seconded, to approve this resolution. The motion carried by voice vote.**
  
- 2 [17-1353](#) Partner with Utilities for 100% Clean Energy  
  
**Attachments:** [Article](#)  
[Madison's MOU w/ MG&E - Draft](#)  
[Minneapolis's MOU w/ Xcel](#)  
[Mayors for 100% Clean Energy - Sierra Club](#)  
  
*Staff shared e-mail and background and asked for direction on how to proceed. Giese asked for official direction from the mayor. Tyser asked if the MOU would be citywide or just for the City government. Giese requested including Dairyland Power as well. Van*

*Maren felt that a MOU would be encouraging for utilities to know that Cities and Counties supported it. Commission asked staff to research why Dane County didn't pursue a MOU. Tyser asked about including Onalaska. Staff suggested starting with the La Crosse and inviting people after that got started.*

**Lenard made a motion, Thompson seconded, that the City and County pursue a memorandum of understanding with Xcel Energy and possibly Dairyland Power. The motion carried by a voice vote.**

**3**      [17-0600](#)      Alternative Transportation Policy Recommendations

**Attachments:**      [Notes from Previous Meetings](#)  
                                 [GTLC Scorecard - Transportation](#)

*Giese suggested splitting out the discussion on an idling policy from the alternative transportation discussion. Nichols suggested that sheriffs dept. could be a good collaborator on enforcing idling policy. Brevier met with Streets, who requested a seasonal exemption; suggested exempting police and fire. Giese requested model ordinances from GTLC. Van Maren recommends policy apply to all citizens. Bertrand mentioned the importance of education, that people need to care first. Van Maren agreed that promoting safety and cost benefits would help.*

*Tyser requested volunteers to report back on lessons learned from forums. Van Maren and Bertrand volunteered for alternative transportation; Diermeier and Cornforth volunteered for recycling.*

**4**      [17-1349](#)      Recycling Policy Recommendations

**Attachments:**      [GTLC Scorecard - Waste](#)

*Tyser requested volunteers to report back on lessons learned from forums. Van Maren and Bertrand volunteered for alternative transportation; Diermeier and Cornforth volunteered for recycling.*

**5**      [17-1352](#)      La Crosse Strategic Plan for Sustainability Update

**6**      [17-1518](#)      Update on Sustainable La Crosse Website

**Attachments:**      [Hyperlink](#)

*County-maintained site needs update. Karl Green is no longer responsible for it.*

**7**      [17-1519](#)      Update on the Landfill

*Construction of new entrance opening soon, added one scale for new system, added new curb & gutter. Nichols has 2018 calendars available. Koch is retiring at the end of 2017.*

### Next Meeting Date / Agenda Items

*The next meeting will be 11/16 @ 4:30. Potential agenda items may include clean energy MOU, alternative transportation and recycling recommendations, idling policy, and website update.*

## Adjournment

**Lenard made a motion, Brever seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 pm.  
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](mailto:ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org), with as much advance notice as possible.*