



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

Thursday, May 6, 2021

4:30 PM

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

Staff called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Dorothy Lenard, Cathy Van Maren, Casey Meehan

Excused: 1 - Susanna Hanson

Agenda Items:

1 Elect chairperson and vice-chairperson

The election was postponed until the Mayor's appointment is confirmed.

2 [21-0637](#) Orientation on role of the Steering Committee during the Planning Process

Attachments: [Orientation](#)

Staff reviewed the handout with the committee.

3 [21-0638](#) Discussion and Action on Request for Proposal for Climate Action Planning

Attachments: [Request for Proposals](#)
[Standard Terms & Conditions](#)

*Meehan brought up the GHG inventory scopes 1-3 and explained what they cover.
Staff said the 2019 GHG inventory covered municipal and community emissions in*

scope 1 and 2, because 3 is very difficult to ascertain. Van Maren suggested the GHG inventory should cover all 3. Van Maren also asked when the plan is anticipated to be completed and emphasized the urgency of moving quickly.

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

4 [21-0639](#)

Spring Intern Research Memos and Recommendations

Attachments: [Sustainability Plan Review](#)
 [LEED Memo](#)
 [Carpooling Memo](#)
 [Community Gardening Memo](#)
 [Green Business Certification Program Memo](#)
 [GND Memo](#)

Intern and staff presented memos recommending changes to Strategic Plan for Sustainability goals. On the green business certification memo, Van Maren asked if any case studies had actions that worked against sustainability goals. CM Mindell asked if the certification could include cultural and ability sensitivity to reduce unintended consequences. For the LEED requirements memo, Meehan suggested considering the Living Building Challenge. Lenard said requirement was excluded from Strategic Plan to avoid cost of certification. Mayor Reynolds supported less emphasis on certification and not getting wrapped up in outside measures; do what is extraordinary for La Crosse. Van Maren suggested considering Net Zero Energy Buildings. For the carpooling memo, Van Maren suggested free park and ride at edge of city and reduced fare transit passes. For community garden recommendations, Van Maren emphasized the cultural change need for "food not lawns." She also suggested broadening the idea of a garden to include rain gardens and pollinator gardens.

5 Discussion on future meeting times and dates

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 24th at 4:30 pm, after the proposal deadline. Meetings will likely continue monthly through the planning process.

Adjournment

Van Maren motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 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.