

**Town of Menasha Sustainability Committee
Tuesday, February 9, 5:30 p.m.
Town of Menasha
Municipal Complex
2000 Municipal Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the Sustainability Committee was called to order by Chair Dillon at 5:40 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Michael Dillon, Mr. Kris Koeppe, Mr. Maury Cox, and Mr. James Wise

ALSO PRESENT: Jeri Kalinich

ABSENT: Mr. Dale McNamee, Mr. Michael VanDyke, and Ms. Rachel Osterling

TOWN STAFF: Community Development Director George Dearborn; Associate Planner Ria Hull

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Jan. 12, 2009

A motion was made by Mr. Wise, seconded by Mr. Koeppe, to approve the minutes of January 12, 2009.

The motion carried – 4-0-3.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 1 – Education and Awareness – Discuss Chapters 4-6 of *The Natural Step*

The Committee discussed the circle questions for chapters 5 and 6.

The Committee discussed renewable energy and changing development patterns to more compact development to save energy.

Chair Dillon asked whether current zoning and building codes allow for renewable energy use. He said that the Committee could research low-tech., easy-to-do, renewable energy practices and create brochures to hand out. Mr. Wise volunteered to help Mr. Dillon with the research.

Mr. Dearborn said that staff would be happy to create brochures to hand out.

Chair Dillon brought up the biofiltration project that SCA is doing with McMahon, the WDNR, and USGS. He said that it is a groundwater recharge research project and that he could report on it at the next meeting.

At the next meeting the Committee will discuss chapters 7 and 8.

Item 2(a) – Reports –Town Energy Audit

Mr. Dearborn said that we had Faith Technologies come to the Municipal Complex and that they would be willing to do an energy audit for free. He said that Randy Gallow, the Street Superintendent, said he has also been working on energy efficiency for the building.

Chair Dillon asked if we could have Mr. Gallow prepare a report for the Committee.

Item 2(b) – Reports – Waste Reduction

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Item 3 – Green Procurement Policy

The Committee discussed the Green Procurement Policy and decided not to approve it until the next meeting given the fact that three of the Committee members were absent and could not give their input.

Item 4 – Discuss the Healthy Sustainable Business Neighborhood Program

Chair Dillon introduced the Healthy Sustainable Business Neighborhoods Program proposal. He said that SCA and Miron are on board and they are trying to get McMahon involved too. He said that the idea is to encourage businesses to be sustainable and their employees to be healthy. He said that he would like the Committee to critique the program proposal and give feedback at the next meeting. He said that he would invite Dr. Margie Weiss, who is spearheading the effort, to the next meeting.

Mr. Koeppe said that he thinks this is a great idea and that it could be a good alternative to LEED, which is not economically feasible for most companies.

Item 5 – Ways and Means – Discuss Possibility of a Town Farmer’s Market

Mr. Cox said that he contacted the Neenah, Menasha, and Appleton Farmer’s Markets. He went to the Appleton Winter Market and talked to one of the organizers about how they created the market and about the vendor contracts.

Chair Dillon said that the City of Menasha did a survey that they would probably share with us.

Mr. Koeppe asked about liability concerns.

Mr. Cox said that vendors must carry insurance.

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Chair Dillon said that starting small is good, but that we will need some critical mass. He said that we need to pick a location and stay there for a while to get the market established.

Mr. Dearborn said that he would inquire about using the Town Hall parking lot as the location.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Item 1 – Event at Evergreen Credit Union

Chair Dillon said that there is a renewable energy event at Evergreen Credit Union on the 18th of February. He said that the Committee could participate and hand out brochures/pamphlets.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Koeppel, seconded by Mr. VanDyke, to adjourn.

The motion carried – 4-0-3.

7:30 p.m.

Ria Hull
Recording Secretary