



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Environmental Council

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

5:00 PM Room 351, City County Building, 210 ML King Jr Blvd

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A. Call To Order

Present 3 - PATRICK DOWNING, SHELLY ALLNESS, and NIKOLE JONES

Absent 2 - LAKSHMI SRIDHARAN, and Vice Chair ALIXANDRA JACOBSON

Falter called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Note that Chair Steve Falter and member Jeff Soellner were present and are awaiting term reappointment by the County Executive's Office. Shelly Allness was present via phone connection and will abstain from all votes. Staff Mindy Habecker was also present.

B. Consideration of Minutes

approved

Present 5 - PATRICK DOWNING, SHELLY ALLNESS, Chair STEVEN FALTER, JEFFREY SOELLNER, and NIKOLE JONES

Absent 2 - LAKSHMI SRIDHARAN, and Vice Chair ALIXANDRA JACOBSON

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Attachments: [January 18 2017 Minutes final](#)

C. Action Items

Pollinator Protection

Habecker reviewed progress to the pollinator protection work. The Work Group for this met on January 18, 2017 and developed an outlined timeframe of 2017 work plan for pollinator protection. This should accomplish all that has been funded by the county for 2017. It is an ambitious plan with multiple major projects needing to be worked on throughout the year. The Work Group will have to meet at least monthly to steer this project. The group developed potential partner expectations and criteria for demonstration sites. Details are on the draft 2017 work plan. The plan was discussed and added to. A Work Group meeting will follow the Council's meeting this evening to detail out more of the work schedule.

The Council was informed that the Pollinator informational brochure is ready for printing. Habecker is scheduled to review paper options with a printing firm on February 17th. Downing made the following motion, "The Dane County Environmental Council's Pollinator brochure should be printed by a union printing shop and go with the lowest bidder." This motion did not receive a second, so failed to move forward. More discussion on printing continued until Chair Falter made the following motion, "The Dane County Environmental Council's Pollinator brochure should be printed by a Dane County union printer if two or more union printers are available to bid on the brochure printing, and then go to the lowest bidder. If only one union printer in Dane County is available, The brochure can then be then bid on by free market printers in Dane County." This motion was seconded by Jones and unanimously approved by the Council.

The Council also discussed purchasing of display boards for the Pollinator Protection effort. Habecker passed around information on about 30 boards. She is looking at tabletop three panel boards that are easy to set up and do not contain extra features such as lights or fancy header attachment boards. Most of the models that she is looking at cost about \$160-170. She would like to get three boards and have three displays that could be borrowed at one time for events such as Earth Day. Downing moved and Jones seconded the motion to, "Purchase three table top display boards spending approximately \$200 per board." This was unanimously approved by the Council. Allness abstained from the vote. Discussion followed about favoring black and gray felt panels so have more neutral tones in background. Green felt was also recommended.

Private Fundraising

No actions taken on this item.

2017 Grant Process

Soellner provided all Council members with a Dropbox entry for the grant information retrieval. Supervisor Downing let it be known that he had trouble opening this box. Habecker has at this point only received two grant applications. Most come in the last week. She will post some initial materials to the box to see if everyone can retrieve items next week as a test run. She will be adding the completed files to the Dropbox on March 2nd all should be ready for Council members to review the grants. That will give Council almost three weeks to review the applications prior to the March 21st meeting.

D. Presentations

Announcements

Habecker announced that the Madison Area Woodland Owner's Conference is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, 2017. Detailed information is up on Dane County UW Extension's website. Downing announced that the Nelson Institute's Earth Day Conference is scheduled for April 18th and suggested that the Council meet at 5pm after that conference in the City County Building.

Habecker announced that she has safely returned from a two week teaching experience in rural Ghana. She was working with a 65 tribal members in the Ada East District of the Greater Accra Region of Ghana. They grow cassava, peppers, watermelon, tomatoes, okra, and raise chickens, goats, sheep, cattle and pigs. This was volunteer professional work through US International Development Agency (AID) Farmer to Farmer program. She was working on building the group's capacity to run an agricultural cooperative while also assisting them develop the by-laws and policies they will need. About half of the group were illiterate and the rural site only periodically had electricity. Habecker reported it was a wonderful and stretching experience. She will be giving presentations on this and her associated experiences with the project over the next several months.

E. Reports to Committee - none

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next meeting date is Tuesday, March 21 beginning at 4:00 pm in room 121, Fen Oak Resource Center, 5201 Fen Oak Drive. The key agenda items include an overview of the budget followed by a review of the grant applications.

The April meeting will be held in the City County Building either Tuesday, April 18th at 5pm following the Nelson Institute's Earth Day Conference or on Wednesday, April 19th at 5pm which is the regularly scheduled date. This date will be determined at the March 21st meeting.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda - none**H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law - none****I. Adjourn****adjourned**

Present 5 - PATRICK DOWNING, SHELLY ALLNESS, Chair STEVEN FALTER, JEFFREY SOELLNER, and NIKOLE JONES

Absent 2 - LAKSHMI SRIDHARAN, and Vice Chair ALIXANDRA JACOBSON

NOTE: If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please call the phone number below at least three business days prior to the meeting.

NOTA: Si necesita un intérprete, un traductor, materiales en formatos alternativos u otros arreglos para acceder a este servicio, actividad o programa, comuníquese al número de teléfono que figura a continuación tres días hábiles como mínimo antes de la reunión.

LUS CIM: Yog hais tias koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, ib tug neeg txhais ntawv, cov ntawv ua lwm hom ntawv los sis lwm cov kev pab kom siv tau cov kev pab, cov kev ua ub no (activity) los sis qhov kev pab cuam, thov hu rau tus xov tooj hauv qab yam tsawg peb hnuv ua hauj lwm ua ntej yuav tuaj sib tham.

Staff: Mindy Habecker, 608-224-3718 or habecker@countyofdane.com