



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Environmental Council

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Monday, August 19, 2019

5:00 PM

Room 321, City County Bld

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A. Call To Order

Present 6 - LAKSHMI SRIDHARAN, JEFFREY SOELLNER, TEAGUE MAWER, NATALIE EISNER, THOMAS EGGERT, and JULIE SCHWELLENBACH

Soellner called the meeting to order at 5:00. Habecker was also in attendance.

B. Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of May 8, 2019 were unanimously approved.

approved

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MINUTES MAY 8 2019

Attachments: [Minutes May 8 2019](#)

C. Action Items

1. Grant Field Review Outing

Council discussed what grant award sites should be visited on Friday, September 6th. Eisner who is organizing the event will contact Friends of Festge Park and Southwest Trout Unlimited. The Council also wished to visit one of the pollinator educational gardens. The Village of Cross Plains in Zander Park will be added to the tour if staff are available. This tour will begin with a business meeting from 2:30-3:00 and be directly followed by a tour of Festge Park. Eisner will make the contacts to see if the logistics will work for all the groups. Habecker will forward her the contact information.

2. Grant Program Items Needing Attention

Habecker distributed the latest version of the 2020 grant guidelines for a final review. Eggert made two additional edits. Habecker will make those changes and then post the guidelines to the Council's website and update the grant tips section on the website.

3. Pollinator Protection Initiatives

Six additional parks are putting in pollinator educational gardens with interpretive signage for a total of 15 sites across the county. One is a City of Madison Park, Washington Manor on the northeast side of Madison. This project was fast-tracked due to the city's timeline and thus was planned and already planted. Its signage is currently being manufactured. The other 5 sites are all in county parks and will be sited and designed this fall. Signage will be designed fall and winter and all the gardens will be planted in the spring of 2020. These gardens bring more diversity in park attendees and pollinator habitat as some of them are wooded sites and others on the border of woods to open areas. All of them will have customized bilingual signage that reflects there situations. These parks include: Indian Lake, Stewart Lake, Lake View Hill (in Madison), McCarthy Youth and Conservation and Praire Moraine Parks.

The pollinator habitat assessment was beta tested and a survey was part of that to take in feedback. After discussion, it looks like at least 5 properties were assessed and comments sent in about how to improve the assesement tool. Money has been placed in the budget to refine the tool and make it digital. Schwellenbach found a similar tool used in MN. This will be discussed in the October meeting.

Would like to beta test the Community and School Pollinator Incentive Program. The program needs a few more details worked out regarding it. Eisner and Eggert have agreed to do this refinement work and bring it to the October meeting.

Pollinator outreach continues to happen. Habecker has done approximately 12 library presentations and interacted with about 600 people at the Olbrich Butterfly Day. This week she worked with the Madison Senior Center who wishes to develop pollinator habitat and an intergenerational program focused on beekeeping and pollinators. The City of Madison parks plans to put in pollinator habitat in the current courtyard that surrounds their building, a local grocery and apartment complexes in the Mifflin Street area.

The Council also discussed the pollinator 2019 budget and concurred that it is an accurate reflection of their priorities for spending.

D. Presentations

1. Announcements - none

E. Reports to Committee- none

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next meeting of the Environmental Council is Friday, September 6th at 2:30 pm meeting at Festge Park Pavillion, 4894 Scherbel Rd, Cross Plains for a grant and pollinator garden field review. Additional meetings for the year are scheduled for 5pm in room 321 City County Building on Wednesday, October 23rd and December 4th.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda - none

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law -none

I. Adjourn

adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

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 at 608-224-3718 or habecker@countyofdane.com