



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Environmental Council

Friday, September 23, 2016

2:00 PM

Room 116 UW Arboretum, 1207 Seminole Hwy

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A. Call To Order

Present 4 - PATRICK DOWNING, SHELLY ALLNESS, Chair STEVEN FALTER, and
JEFFREY SOELLNER

Excused 1 - NIKOLE JONES

Falter called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm. Members Lakshmi Sridharan and Alixander Jacobson were also present. Others present included Mindy Habecker, staff; Anna January and Julie Butler, Madison Children's Museum, David Stevens, UW Arboretum, and Ben Yahr and Adrian Leep, Friends of Lake Wingra.

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2016](#) ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST 9, 2016
[MIN-211](#)

Attachments: [Minutes August 9 2016](#)

This Minutes was approved the minutes

C. Action Items

Private Fundraising

The Council discussed making direct contact with potential private donors. Soellner and Jones have already selected contacts. Allness and Jacobson will contact American Family Insurance. Falter will contact Alliant Energy, and Sridharan will contact Epic, Cuna, Pleasant Rowland, and Mead & Hunt. Contacts should be made by September 30th. Habecker will send out funding request letters to all other groups the first week of October and to the contacted groups after she hears from the Council member scheduled to make the personal contact to let her know a follow up letter can be sent.

Pollinator Protection Update

Habecker provided an update on the work of the workgroup and technical committee for Pollinator Protection work. A progress report was sent to EANR Committee on September 9th. A informational card that will be inserted in a clear bag with native plant seeds and a paper "fortune teller" youth activity on pollinators were discussed for final review by the Council. A few changes were suggested for each of the two pieces which will be made prior to printing. Allness made a motion seconded by Falter and amended by Downing to the following: \$2000 of the Farm Technology grant money allocated for pollinator protection can be used to print 10,000 pollinator cards and similar fortune teller activity, along with one set of display panels and the supplies needed to run the activities associated with these materials (prairie seeds, colored pencils, markers, scissors, etc.). The amended motion was unanimously approved by all Council members.

Habecker also stated that the display panels will carry similar information and are in their third review round. A brochure is also drafted and will be completed after the display is completed. The first event for these materials will be the October 7th at the Harvest Moon Festival at Lussier Family Heritage Center.

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D. Presentations

Announcements

Field Review of 2016 selected grant sites

A field review of three 2016 grants was then held. Anna January, Grants & Stewardship Manager, and Julie Butler, Rooftop Manager of the Madison Children's Museum presented on the Homing pigeon traveling program. They brought 4 pigeons, described their ecology and role in history, then after messages were written and stored in a leg-held capsule, the Council released the pigeons and later would see if they returned to the Museum with the messages.

This was followed by a presentation by David Stevens, the Logenecker Horticultural Garden's curator. He discussed the grant that has allowed them to design and produce labels for the roughly 800 shade trees within the collection. These will be easy to find and read 3" x 5" labels. This grant was also combined with another one received from the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society that will allow for all 800 trees to be labeled. The labels have been purchased and are in the process of being engraved.

The last presentation was from Ben Yahr and Adrian Leep from the Friends of Lake Wingra. They reviewed their organization formed in 1998 that serves a 3500 acre urban watershed that has about 30,000 people in it. They have done visioning, developed a watershed plan and are currently implementing that plan which focuses on phosphorus reduction, chloride reduction, and infiltration by promoting such practices as raingardens. Their grant was used to produce a new brochure for the watershed group. They developed a new logo and are targeting the brochure to reach more of the watershed's residents. They have a distribution plan in mind and plan to acknowledge the Council in the printed brochure.

The Council then drove to the Madison Children's Museum to have a tour of the Museum where they have provided multiple grants for projects including solar ovens, edible insects, and taking the homing pigeon educational project to underserved groups. The Council briefly toured the three floors but focused on the Rooftop where most of the grant money was utilized. The Homing pigeons were back in their roost. Museum staff removed the messages from the leg capsule and they will be placed in a book with other returned messages. The tour ended at 5:45 pm.

E. Reports to Committee- none

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next meeting of the Environmental Council is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 5pm in room 357 of the City County Building.

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

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law - none**I. Adjourn**

The formal meeting adjourned at 3:30 and then began the field tour of 2016 grant projects that ended at 5:45 pm.

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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: Melinda Habecker 608-224-3717 or habecker@countyofdane.com
Wisconsin Relay 711*