



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?

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

5:00 PM

City County Building, Room 321

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A. Call To Order

Present 4 - JEFFREY SOELLNER, TEAGUE MAWER, NATALIE EISNER, and THOMAS EGGERT
Excused 1 - LAKSHMI SRIDHARAN
Absent 1 - JULIE SCHWELLENBACH

Soellner called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Habecker was also present.

B. Consideration of Minutes

Minutes of November 28, 2018 were approved unanimously approved.

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[2018](#)
[MIN-365](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 28 2018

Attachments: [Minutes November 28 2018](#)

C. Action Items

1. Grant Issues that Need Attention

Council encourages the development of an electronic data base to eventually replace the mailing of Environmental Council grant guidelines and other information. Action unanimously approved

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Habecker stated that over 300 grant applications are currently being mailed out. The cover letter asks people to provide their electronic mailing address to cut down on this number. However this is only slowly growing. Habecker obtained the approval to have her support staff to actively convert the list to an electronic list so that the Council uses less paper. The Council discussed and made a motion to encourage this electronic list development.

Grants have been mailed out and phone calls are coming in with inquiries.

2. Private Fundraising

Soellner has made a request to ATC that has been received. He requested \$2000. He has heard back from them that it will be 2-4 weeks before a decision is made. No other progress made for private fundraising.

3. Environmental Council Logo

Habecker checked on if there are any regulations or requirements for logo change with both the County Clerk and the County Board Staff. Neither know of any but suggested she check with Corporation Counsel. The Council suggested that Habecker move forward and check with both the County Executive's Office and Corporation Counsel before Eggert begins approaching the UW Art Department about a student contest.

4. Pollinator Protection Work Group Creation and Update

The Environmental Council is creating a Pollinator Protection Subcommittee to provide guidance and oversight in implementing the Dane County Pollinator Protection Plan. This subcommittee will consist of the following members: Thomas Eggert, Jeffery Soellner and Natalie Eisner. The Subcommittee will meet as needed through December 2019. The motion was unanimously approved.

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Habecker explained her recent conversation with the Chief of Staff of the County Board. The County has shifted its stance with subcommittees and work groups of official bodies. Now all must be officially created by a motion, is recommended to have a yearly lifespan, and have official members. Then agendas and minutes will need to be created for each meeting separate from Environmental Council's agendas and minutes. Habecker suggested that it be a subcommittee of the Environmental Council and that its official members need to be committed so that meetings will be able to occur with a quorum. This was discussed. Soellner made a motion to form the Pollinator Protection Subcommittee with Soellner, Eggert and Eisner as official members. Sridharan and Schwellenbach were not present and will be asked at a later date if they would like to be official members. The Subcommittee will run through December 2019 and then be reinstated if needed. The subcommittee will regularly meet after Environmental Council's meetings and at other times if needed. An official start time is needed for meeting agendas. Habecker was advised to give a conservatively short time to the Council meetings (as we cannot begin before the posted time) and then add the clause " or directly after the Environmental Council meeting". It is not clear at this point if members will receive additional per diems for these subcommittee meetings, county board staff are checking on this.

D. Presentations

1. Announcements

Habecker announced that the \$2000 for the UW Insect Ambassador stipend program was not able to be funded with 2018 dollars as there were too many money transfer issues to be resolved despite beginning the process in October. The Council will have to decide if they wish to fund the program with the 2019 budget and at what level. Habecker is continuing to work with them to see if we can actually have a process to get the money transferred (if available) for 2019. Habecker also learned that the Environment, Agriculture, and Natural Resource Committee chose not to move forward with a small grant program that community groups who are not non-profits could apply for for stewardship activities. It had been suggested that the Council oversee this program if it was created. Habecker is training the Master Gardener's Speakers Bureau volunteers to give pollinator presentations and in the use of educational support materials next week. This will expand the capacity for others to learn about pollinator protection. Habecker will also be at Garden Expo early next month with the Pollinator Display and activities. She is sharing a gratis booth with the Master Gardeners and will be training others booth volunteers to educate on pollinators at the Expo for the times she is not present. The 2018 Pollinator Progress report has been revised and will be sent out the week of January 14th to relevant groups and posted to the website after several county departments have completed a review of the report.

E. Reports to Committee**F. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 5pm in room 321, City County Building. The grant review meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th at 4pm in room 321, City County Building. This meeting is beginning earlier than usual due to it being a longer meeting for the review.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law**

The Pollinator Protection Work Group, now Subcommittee met directly after the Council meeting. They did a final review and approval of the 2018 Progress Report. Habecker is still waiting for review comments from several departments who have until Feb 15 to send comments in. The finalized report will be sent out later that week and posted to the website. The UW Sustainability Class draft project was reviewed and two items will be added to the list of potential project ideas. A guidance group for the project including Tom Eggert and Habecker will be meeting on Monday, January 14th at the UW-Arboretum to finalize the class project submission. The draft 2019 plan of work for pollinator protection was finalized and will be used to guide this year's work. Initial planning was done for distribution of the brochure stands to libraries, municipalities, and community centers. Habecker will put together a distribution plan and talking points guidance by the end of February. Eggert, Eisner, Soellner and Habecker will all do the distribution in March 2019 prior to the April elections. The design of a pilot project for pollinator friendly practices with schools and community centers was deferred to the next meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

2018 POLLINATOR PROTECTION 2019 WORK PLAN
RPT-439

Attachments: Pollinator Project 2019 Work Plan and Budget

I. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

This was adjourned

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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