



# 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?*

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Wednesday, October 23, 2019

5:00 PM

Room 321, City County Building

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Room 321, City County Building

#### A. Call To Order

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

Soellner called the meeting to order at 5:03. Habecker was also in attendance.

#### B. Consideration of Minutes

*Eggert moved and Schwellenbach seconded a motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2019. Minutes were unanimously approved.*

**Eggert moved and Schwellenbach seconded a motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2019. Minutes were unanimously approved.**

#### C. Action Items

##### 1. Grant Program Items Needing Attention

2020 grant information is posted on the website. Materials will be e-mailed or mailed in early December to potential applicants. Habecker was contacted about altering what a Community Partner grant would provide funding for. Group encouraged to outline their suggested change and provide reasoning and submit it to the Council for consideration at a future meeting. Habecker is paying out the 2019 Capital Equipment grants and receiving final reports that are all posted on the Council's website the week they are received.

##### 2. Private Fundraising

Eggert reached out to American Family Insurance and will have to work through the process of its Foundation. Sridharan contacted Madison Gas & Electric and will have to make additional inquiries to contact their Foundation. Eggert knows people working with the Foundation and will additionally be involved along with Eisner.

##### 3. Pollinator Protection Initiatives

Habecker is currently working on 6 pollinator gardens. She is having an interpretive sign installed this week at Washington Manor City Park, meeting with the Board of Directors for the Friends of McCarthy Youth and Conservation Park and getting ready to send out the plant order for 5 educational gardens that will be planted next spring. Working with groups on garden design, finalizing location, and interpretive sign design. Additionally she presented at a statewide conference for the UW's Institute of Natural Resources on the Council's pollinator work and its striving to meet and work with diverse audiences.

The pollinator habitat assessment tool went through Beta field testing this summer. Habecker will contact, Claudio Gratton, UW Entomology who was one of the project advisors to see if he has a student who is willing to revise the tool given the Beta test feedback and make it an on-line assessment. Council has set aside budget funds to proceed with this step of the project.

Eisner and Eggert revised the School and Community Pollinator Incentive Program and Habecker also made modifications. After additional Council discussion, Habecker will again revise and finalize the program guidance and application. Eisner and Habecker will work to pilot the program this year into next year with a school. The program will then be revised as needed and will be ready to run full scale after the educational gardens program will have completed in June 2020. At that time 15 long-term pollinator educational gardens will be established with an intentional geographic diversity throughout the county. Habecker will also be ordering signs that acknowledge the Environmental Council's involvement in the Community and School Pollinator Incentive Program.

Habecker will also be working with UW Entomology to provide stipends to students who give pollinator presentations within Dane County through their work in the UW Insect Ambassador Program.

#### **D. Presentations**

##### **1. Announcements**

Habecker was approached by City of Madison staff to see if there is a possibility of the Environmental Council and members of the City's Pollinator Protection Task Force of working together on goals of joint interest. A more formal and specific request may be coming to the Council after the City does some analysis. Noted that the Dane County and City of Madison Food Council work jointly.

#### **E. Reports to Committee - none**

#### **F. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

Next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4 at 5pm in Room 321 City County Bld.

**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 6 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 608-224-3718 [habecker@countyofdane.com](mailto:habecker@countyofdane.com)*