



# 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, December 4, 2019

5:00 PM

Room 321, City County Building

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Room 321, City County Building

#### A. Call To Order

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

Soellner called the meeting to order at 5:05. Habecker also present. Sridharan arrived at 5:15.

#### B. Consideration of Minutes

*Minutes of October 23, 2019 were unanimously approved.*

**approved.**

[2019](#) OCTOBER 23 2019 MINUTES  
[MIN-298](#)

**Attachments:** [Minutes October 23 2019](#)

#### C. Action Items

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

Grant application guidelines were sent out the end of November. Habecker is currently contacting all grant recipients who have not turned in final reports to remind them to do so and check on the status of the grant progress. The Council requested that Habecker develop a listing of all outstanding reports over the last 5 years to refer to as they review the next series of grant applicants. The Council also requested that Habecker send the Executive's Office a press release about the grant program and encourage that it also be utilized for Facebook and newsletters.

##### 2. Private Fundraising

The Council received a \$2000.00 check from MGE Foundation for use in its grant program. This is in response to a request from member Tom Eggert. Habecker will send a thank you note to MGE Foundation. Others will be making contact with potential donors over the next two months.

### 3. Pollinator Protection Initiatives

Habecker is working with 7 groups to put in 8 educational pollinator gardens in for 2020. This includes two at Henry Vilas Zoo, one as a pilot project at Woodland Montessori School, and 5 at the following county parks: Indian Lake, Stewart Lake, McCarthy Youth and Conservation, Lakeview, and Prairie Moraine Parks. Eisner and Habecker are working with Woodland Montessori School as a pilot for the Community/School Pollinator Incentive Program. The school is enhancing an existing green space, putting in a Little Library what will be dedicated to pollinators and perhaps installing a second bench that can be use by both the school and the public. The plants are being ordered this month and will be delivered next spring.

Habecker is also working to get funds transfered for the UW Insect Ambassadors, for student presentations made within Dane County on pollinators as student stipends, and to UW Entomology to have the pollinator habitat assessment made into an on-line assessment tool with specific information provided to users.

[2019  
RPT-366](#)

COMMUNITY & SCHOOL POLLINATOR FRIENDLY PRACTICES  
PROGRAM APPLICATION

**Attachments:** [Application for Community School P Program](#)

[2019  
RPT-365](#)

COMMUNITY & SCHOOL POLLINATOR FRIENDLY PRACTICES  
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Attachments:** [Community and School Program Description Final](#)

## D. Presentations

### 1. Announcements

Habecker is currently working with the City of Madison on Climate Change Resilience. Teague Mawer and Jeff Soellner will be leaving the Council after their term is up, January 31, 2020. Soellner has agreed to stay until a new member is appointed. The Council will greatly miss their presence and many contributions and thanks them for their service.

Several groups have approached Habecker about interpretive signage. This occurs because people have seen the pollinator interpretive signs and want similar signage for environmental spaces. The Villages of Cross Plains and Mazomanie along with Black Earth Creek Watershed Association is very interested in interpretive signage similar to the pollinator sign along Black Earth Creek in public park. Additionally the Emerson East Neighborhood Association would like signage for Demetral Park in east Madison. Habecker will be meeting with these groups. The Environmental Council is getting a reputation for its interpretive educational work in the county.

**E. Reports to Committee - none**

**F. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

The Council will meet on the following dates, Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 5:00 pm if we have new members to orient to the grant review process and Friday, March 27, 2020 at 2:00 pm for the grant review meeting. Habecker will schedule a room in the City County Building for these meetings.

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

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

**I. Adjourn**

adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 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](mailto:habecker@countyofdane.com)*