



# 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, September 16, 2020

3:00 PM

Remote Meeting: Call 1 877 309 2073

Access Code: 709-425-133

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Access Code: 709-425-133

The September 16th Environmental Council Committee meeting is being held remotely.  
The public can access the meeting by calling the number below.

Once prompted, enter in the access code and you will be connected to the meeting.

NOTE: You will be placed on hold until the host joins.

United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073

Access Code: 709-425-133

If you would like to register to speak, please fill out a registration form by clicking on the  
following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QFLYZJN>

Registrations will be accepted until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Staff will then call you into the meeting when the item is before the committee.

#### A. Call To Order

*Vice Chair SEEL called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and reviewed the  
announcements for virtual meetings.*

*SIDHARAN joined at 3:12 pm*

*Others present: Mindy Habecker, Claudia Wiederholt and Susan Sanford, staff for Dane  
County Land and Water Resource Department*

**Present** 4 - THOMAS EGGERT, Supervisor JULIE SCHWELLENBACH, LAKSHMI  
SRIDHARAN, and Vice Chair PETER SEEL

**Excused** 1 - Chair NATALIE EISNER

**B. Consideration of Minutes**

[2020  
MIN-144](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MINUTES 18. AUG. 2020

Attachments: [2020 MIN-144](#)

**A motion was made by EGGERT, seconded by SCHWELLENBACH, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.**

**C. Action Items**

*1. Pollinator Protection Initiatives*

*Habecker updated the Council the pilot project for the School and Community Pollinator Incentive Program is completed at the Woodland Montessori School. EISNER and Habecker have revised the program given what they learned in the pilot to prepare for a full roll in the future. Council approved the framework of the program and will refine it at future meetings.*

**A motion was made by SRIDHARAN, seconded by SCHWELLENBACH, that the current framework for the School and Community Pollinator Incentive Program be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.**

*The Council will review the original Dane County Pollinator Protection Plan's goals and objectives to see what still needs to be completed after 5 years of work on the plan. Habecker will draft a 2020 progress report on pollinator protection efforts and will also draft a summary of what has been accomplished to date on the goals and objectives of the plan. The Council will then send a letter to all interested groups on the current cumulative progress.*

*Habecker noted that the pollinator habitat assessment tool was altered so that it is easier to come up as one uses search engines to find it. The Gratton Lab staff added new search words and phrases.*

## *2. Revisions for 2021 Grant Process and Guidelines*

*The Council reviewed progress made on the suggested changes to the 2021 grant program guidelines. Habecker has drafted a 2021 version and has removed need for support letters and specified that separate applications are needed if applying to both programs. Habecker will send the new version to Council members. SCHWELLENBACH reviewed draft internal guidelines of a flowchart and decision questions to help Council member decide whether to fund slightly incomplete applications in determining what will be mandatory and where there is flexibility for applicants. SEEL is working on separating out the guidelines to a separate PDF document.*

*Still need to:*

*Clarify matching funding wording.*

*Separate out timeline and location in the narrative section*

*Add an addendum document that clarifies for Council grant reviewers what are Capital items (get language from Department of Administration)*

## *3. Maintenance of Prairie Heritage Trail prairies*

*The Council will send a thank you letter that will include a \$500 check to the Mount Vue Garden Club for maintaining the Council's prairie garden of the Prairie Heritage Bike Trail for the past 10 years and into the future. Habecker will draft the thank you letter and send out for review to Council.*

**A motion was made by EGGERT, seconded by SRIDHARAN, to send the Mount Vue Garden Club a thank you letter and check for \$500 for maintaining the Council's prairie garden of the Prairie Heritage Bike Trail. The motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.**

*A larger triangular area at the far end of the Prairie Heritage bike trail is maintained by no one except the highway department. Habecker will contact Supervisor DOWNING, who represents this area and will ask him how would like to see it maintained and how might we proceed to do this.*

## *4. Website Redesign*

*Habecker noted that the county will be redesigning the Council's website. Council members should review all the web pages of our site and decide what they would like to keep and what should be historical archive materials. Dane Arts website has already been redesigned and can be used as a model to think about how Council's site might be laid out. Habecker will check with county web staff and try to obtain information on timing for this transition and any guidance they have for the new design. Also will check to see if there are public view sections and internal Council member sections to the site.*

**D. Presentations**

*1. Announcements*

*Habecker announced that she will be retiring in early February 2021*

**E. Reports to Committee**

*None*

**F. Future Meeting Items and Dates**

*The next meeting of the Council will be either October 14th, 2020 at 3pm or October 28th, 2020 at 3pm depending on the availability of Chair, EISNER. Habecker will check with her.*

**G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

*None*

**H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law**

*None*

**I. Adjourn**

*Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm*

**A motion was made by SRIDHARAN, seconded by SCHWELLENBACH, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Mindy Habecker, pending committee approval.**