

CITY OF MONONA
Sustainability Committee
Thursday, April 17th, 2019
MINUTES DRAFT

1. **Call to Order**

6:35 PM – Meeting called to order by Committee Chair, Nancy Moore

2. **Roll Call**

Members Present: Chair Nancy Moore, Mark Buffat, Dan Costello, Teresa Radermacher, Sarah Smith, Sue Vogt

Members Absent: Pat Howell

Staff Present: Brad Bruun, Caitin Hartnett

Guests: None

3. **Approval of March 14th Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve; First – Sue Vogt, Second – Sarah Smith

4. **Public Appearances**

5. **Unfinished Business**

A. Resident Energy Survey – Staff Update

After being open for four weeks, the Resident Energy Survey has garnered 213 responses (242 as of the meeting date, April 17, 2019) and demonstrates resident favorability towards purchasing solar panels for their own homes, regardless if the purchasing process is individualized or collective. However, at the same time, they feel that they require more information on the upfront price of the panels and timeline for a payback period. Residents also seem to be unaware of opportunities to purchase renewable energy to power their homes via Madison Gas and Electric's (MGE) Green Power Tomorrow (GPT) program. These responses indicate that increased community outreach is needed to provide community members with the information they need to take action on energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Chair Nancy Moore and committee member Dan Costello stated that the City of Monona could reach its goal of operating on 100% clean electricity for municipal operations solely through MGE's GPT program. It would cost the City an estimated \$16,000 rise in electricity costs per year to do this.

B. Resident Energy Survey – Committee Volunteer Updates

Committee members have signed up to do PSA's for the Resident Energy Survey on WVMO, and market the survey at various community events.

C. Water Wagon – Committee Update

Dan and Teresa Radermacher met with MG21 principal Rebecca Fox Blair to discuss the school's involvement with decorating and sponsoring the Monona Water Wagon. Staff reiterated that a policies and procedures document would need to precede renting the wagon out to community members or local events, and would need to be done through the Public Works Committee. Despite not having this policy in place yet, the wagon could still be utilized at community events sponsored by and with the City.

D. Sustainability Conversations with the Monona Grove School District – Committee Update

Teresa and Sherrie Gruder have been in contact with the Monona Grove School District about the construction of a new school and incorporating sustainable design. Teresa said she hopes that the school district will consider a net-zero building, similar to other schools in the area. She says that a goal setting meeting with Peter Sobol is planned to discuss feasible ideas, funding, and implementation.

6. **New Business**

A. 2019-2020 Renewable Energy Project Planning Discussion

Chair Nancy Moore introduced a project planning document which outlined potential projects and budgets for said projects. Many options, all which have been discussed in previous Committee meetings, were presented:

1. Launch of MadiSun (i.e. Group Solar Buy) in contract with RENEW WI(proposal \$2,500)
2. MOU with MGE (estimate \$0)
3. Community Campaign for FOE Audits, Enrollment in GPT & Shared Solar (estimate \$750)
4. Sustainability Energy Showcase (recommended in Combo with other Community Entity and/or Event) (estimate \$750)
5. Hire consultant to assess local opportunities (including ROI) for installation of solar garden/field in 2020 (estimate TBD)
6. Adapt City policy to enable TIF dollars to go towards solar system cost in new development (estimate \$0)
7. Information sheets on 100% Clean Energy commitment, energy efficiency & renewable opportunities for City Plan and Inspector offices (estimate \$0)
8. Revised RENEW Monona program launched with energy improvement & renewables focus (estimate \$0)
9. If solar garden unlikely, OEI grant drafted (for funding in 2020) to resolve City facility solar challenge?

After discussing particularities of each option, the two action items will be the projects the Committee will be pursuing for the remainder of 2019.

B. Staff progress Report

a. Sustainability Dashboard – 2017 and 2018

Staff have completed sustainability dashboards for 2017 and 2018. Committee members will email revisions and reviews.

b. Green Tier Legacy Communities 2018 Annual Report

The 2018 Green Tier Legacy Communities report was submitted in mid-April 2019. Teresa requested updates to the 'Zero-Waste Events' section, which will be incorporated and resubmitted.

7. Action Items

A. Motion to enter into a contract with a contract with RENEW Wisconsin to implement MadiSUN in Monona

Motion to approve; First – Teresa Radermacher, Second – Dan Costello

B. Motion to combine #3 and #4 items from 2019-2020 Renewable Energy Project Planning and have a sustainability showcase at National Night Out 2019

Motion to approve; First – Dan Costello, Second – Mark Buffat

8. Adjournment

8:29 PM – Meeting Adjourned; First – Mark Buffat, Second – Teresa Radermacher

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 9th at 6:30 PM.

Any questions or additions please notify Brad Bruun, bbruun@ci.monona.wi.us – Thank you.