



**RCC and Staff Members Present:** Diane Streck, Chris Jimieson, Tony Hartmann, Jan Kucher, Kia Stearn, Sam Cooke, Kim Warkentin, Rick Eilertson, Erika Kluetmeier

**Others Present:** Cory Horton, P.E., Director of Public Works, Kristin Pusateri

**1. Call to Order**

- Chris called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**2. Appointment of Timekeeper**

- Sam Cooke was appointed Timekeeper.

**3. Public Appearances on Non-Agenda Items**

- None

**4. Approval of Minutes from July 20, 2015 RCC Meeting**

- Diane made a motion to approve the Minutes, Kia seconded the motion. Diane provided minor punctuation and wording suggestions. The motion to approve the Minutes as amended passed.

**5. New Business**

**5.a. Draft 2015 Annual Report and 2016 Calendar of Events**

- Diane suggested reordering the names of RCC members in the header and adding the missing details for members to review.
- Tony suggested redesigning the report to show more outcomes and impacts, along with an executive summary. Chris & Tony will work on new format.
- Members suggested 2016 RCC focus should be: School outreach, Plastic bag reduction, Source-separated organics and Formalizing the Municipal Construction Guidelines. Idling reduction could be included in school outreach and other community outreach activities.

**Action item: Chris, Tony & Erika will work on a new report format, fill in any blanks, and circulate it to RCC members before the January meeting.**

**5b. Begin Planning for the 2016 Annual RCC Event**

- Chris discussed past topics. Members decided on a presentation on Climate Change, reasons for denial and what Fitchburg is doing.

**Action items:**

- **Community Outreach Subcommittee will plan annual RCC event (Thursday, May 5th) on climate change, including a case study and relevance to Fitchburg.**
- **Erika will reserve the Library Meeting Room for the annual event.**

**5c. Update and add Holiday Recycling Guide to website**

- Staff will update holiday recycling guide with information on recycling batteries in Spanish and English and post to website.

**5d. Energy-related Grant Opportunities**

- Tony gave background on the Wisconsin Distributed Resources Collaborative grant. Fitchburg's grant request will be for funds to study the feasibility of developing a resident-owned solar farm in Fitchburg.
- Erika provided an overview of the Wisconsin State Energy Office energy saving grant. Fitchburg's proposal will request funds to supplement city funding of McKee and Fish Hatchery Roads streetlight conversion to LED.

**6. Unfinished Business**

**6a. Sustainability Management System**

- In late October, letters were sent to 24 community members and business leaders inviting them to be a member of the Sustainability Task Force. Steve and Erika are following up to confirm their participation.

**Action item: Erika will send list of invitees and invitation letter to RCC members, who will contact any familiar people.**

**6b. Fitchburg Star Articles**

- Editor would like us to involve him early in the writing process. Diane can facilitate contact with The Star.
- Tony offered to write an article on biking and work with Sam on an article on retrocommissioning of older buildings and green features of new municipal buildings – Sam & Tony
- Diane suggested publicizing the winter recreation opportunities at Nine Springs Golf Course (snowshoeing, groomed cross country trails, etc.)

**Action item: Diane will send out email with previous topics and guidelines for articles.**

**6c. Community Outreach Subcommittee**

- Chris provided an overview of the Nov. 5th Energy Conservation Tips event presented by MGE. About 22 people attended and asked good questions. Roman Candle provided free pizza.
- Suggestions for future Green Thursday event topics include a work event to build screens for trash/recycling bills for who need help; a candlelight event at Nine Springs Golf Course; a climate change video recommended by Jan; and a repeat of the bat education event held indoors.
- Chris is looking for a replacement to head the Community Outreach Subcommittee.

**Action items:**

- **Tony will review names from other committee appointments and forward any possibilities for new members to Chris.**

- **Chris will put together a one-paragraph description of Community Outreach Subcommittee (COS) members' duties.**
- **Erika will recruit new members to COS in Green E-News Blast.**

## **7. Council Update**

- Council passed an amendment for \$1,000 to train key staff and department heads in a sustainability management system but did not approve full funding to hire training consultant. A compromise was forged to increase the sustainability specialist to .75 FTE (up from .5 FTE). Council approved \$2,000 for programming at the Boys & Girls Club.
- The full budget did not pass Council and will be reconsidered on Nov. 24th.
- Solar panels were approved for Library roof.
- Construction and planning for fire station with LEED features is well underway.
- Fitchburg received the silver Bicycle Friendly Community award earlier that day from the League of American Bicyclists.

## **8. Staff Update -Sustainability Update**

### **8.a. Solid Waste Update**

- Rick and Jan attended Madison Food Waste Summit and summarized a presentation and tour of American Family pulper unit that grinds and dehydrates food waste.
- Erika recapped additional recycling events at Boys & Girls Club. Felipe and Erika arranged for recycling bins next to every wastebasket and worked with kids to hang up recycling posters and took a field trip walk to Apache pond to see where litter ends up.

### **8.b. Stormwater Update**

- Rick reported that Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is in the process of finalizing an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for Yahara WINs full-scale Adaptive Management Program. A memo from MMSD as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the IGA were included in the packet. Rick indicated that MMSD is hoping to send out the final draft of the IGA within the next month and that staff will create a resolution to be referred out from Common Council to review and approve the IGA. This resolution is anticipated to be referred to the Ag & Rural Affairs Committee, Board of Public Works, RCC, and the Finance Committee.
- Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey recently finalized the Dane County Groundwater Model and will be holding a public presentation soon. Rick will forward details when they are available.

### **8.c. Sustainability Update**

- Erika presented information to Board of Public Works, Library Board and Finance Committee on third-party financing of solar PV panels on the Library roof. Council approved the measure on October 27th.
- The communication methods survey will be published and promoted in January.

**9. Next Meeting**

- RCC will meet on Monday, January 25, 2015 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

**10. Adjournment – 9:14 p.m.**