



VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB

E. Main Street

Mount Horeb, WI 53572

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SUSTAINABILITY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Municipal Building Board Room

138 E. Main Street

Mount Horeb, WI

- 1) Call to order
 - a. Roll Call
- 2) Agenda Items
 - a. Discussion: Debrief of February 15th Program
 - b. Discussion/Consideration: topic and timing for next public program
 - c. Discussion/Consideration: Survey for SNR public input
 - d. Planning Grant Update
 - e. Discussion/Consideration: SNR Mount Horeb Mail Column
 - f. Takeaways from 2023 Renew Summit
 - g. Discussion on Future Agenda Items
 - h. Consideration of January 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- 3) Meeting adjournment.

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AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

February 28, 2023

PREPARED BY

AGENDA ITEM # 2.c

Discussion/Consideration: Survey for SNR public input

BACKGROUND

Election Day Survey? Establishing an ad hoc committee to create a survey to be reviewed and approved at the March meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE	PREPARED BY
February 28, 2023	

AGENDA ITEM # 2.d

Planning Grant Update

BACKGROUND

The application was submitted on time, we anticipate a response in March or April.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None

Sustainable Notes (or a better column title!) by Tim White

Welcome to the Sustainable Notes column written by members of the newly formed Village of Mount Horeb Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee. We join with nine other Dane County communities who embrace ecological and economic sustainability in their planning processes.

What is sustainability? A United Nations commission defined sustainability as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Sustainable development requires an integrated approach that considers environmental concerns along with economic development. We can incorporate sustainability into all areas of our lives, from the food we grow and eat, the natural habitats we create and maintain, and the energy sources we use.

Your Mount Horeb Sustainability Committee members are Village Trustees Brett Halverson and Tim White, and Village residents Kerry Beheler, Tom Butusov, Shaun Danz, Jennifer Gottwald and Jack Saltes. We will sponsor community educational events on best practices and sustainable initiatives, and provide practical information so our municipality and schools, businesses, and residents can take sustainable and achievable actions. We will also write a Village Sustainability Plan which will complement the recently updated Village Comprehensive Plan.

You can find more details about the Sustainability Committee on the Village webpage. We welcome your input! To provide your comments and suggestions, messages can be sent to Committee Chair Tim White, tim.white@mounthorebwi.info, or made in person at Sustainability Committee meetings which are held from 7-8 pm on the last Tuesday of every month in the Mount Horeb Municipal Building Board Room.

The Sustainability Committee’s official Mission Statement is: to collaborate with Village residents to create and expand sustainability practices which are inclusive, safe, and resilient, and which improve the quality of life for current and future generations who call Mount Horeb home; to advocate and promote sustainable policies and practices and seek innovative solutions while recognizing the interdependence of environmental quality, economic resilience and growth, and social equity.

The Sustainability Committee will serve in an advisory capacity, and act in the long-term interests of environmental and economic sustainability for the Village. The Committee Charge is to advocate partnering with other communities and regional governments to leverage resources and funding for possible projects, and to reduce Mount Horeb’s carbon footprint to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Our first Sustainability public program was held on February 15 2023. Kathy Kuntz, Director of the Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change, shared with us the funding opportunities that are available for renewable technologies from the federal Inflation Reduction Act, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act, and Wisconsin’s Focus on Energy program. This bipartisan federal legislation and funding will assist municipalities,

businesses, and homeowners in leveraging substantial savings for installing renewable energy resources. Kathy's program is available for viewing on Troll TV at <https://trollwaytv.viebit.com/index.php>

Renewable energy has never been more affordable to install or important to combat climate change. Funding opportunities available for home solar systems is available in the form of a 30% tax credit for homeowners. This substantially reduces the payback time for installing these systems, and there is also a Focus on Energy financial incentive. Importantly, these projects generate work for local contractors and installers, and maintain a healthy regional economy. More information can be found on the Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change website [Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change](#)

A recent example of economic and environmental sustainability is the Village of Oregon's Forest Edge Elementary School. Forest Edge is the first net zero school in the country, a source of pride for Oregon, and proof that energy independence is achievable. With it's geothermal and solar technologies, Forest Edge School produces more energy than it uses. The annual surplus energy created so far is equivalent to powering a typical home for 2.5 years. Just think what our Mount Horeb municipal, schools, businesses, and individuals can achieve to create and maintain a stable and healthier community. Let's get started!



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

February 28, 2023

PREPARED BY

AGENDA ITEM # 2.g

Discussion on Future Agenda Items

BACKGROUND

Items for future meetings include: Discussion with Slipstream on the implementation of planning grant, joint discussion with parks recreation and forestry commission, microgrids, guest speakers including WPPI, etc.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None



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SUSTAINABILITY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

- 1) Call to order
 - a. Roll Call

Chair White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members Present: White, Saltes, Beheler, Danz, Gottwald, Butusov and Halverson. Also present Administrator Owen.
- 2) Agenda Items
 - a. Approval of December 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Gottwald to approve the December 14, 2022 meeting minutes, second by Danz. Motion carried.
 - b. Discussion and consideration of committee mission and duty and responsibility statements

Saltes recommended removing the word "catastrophic" from Goal 2. After discussion, the consensus of the Committee was to rename the "duties and responsibilities" section as "Committee Charge". Motion by Beheler to recommend approval of the Mission, goals and charge as amended, second by Halverson. Motion carried.
 - c. Discussion of upcoming February 15 Public Meeting

Chair White updated the committee on planning efforts for the speaker. The committee discussed providing refreshments. Butosov will look into advertising options with the school and ecology club.
 - d. Discussion on planning grant with Slipstream

Administrator Owen updated the committee on his work with Slipstream on the grant application. The application will be submitted on time for the January 31 deadline. Owen will keep the committee updated on progress.
 - e. Discussion on takeaways from meetings with WPPI and Sustain Sun Prairie

Committee reviewed notes provided on the meetings and thanked the note takers.
 - f. Discussion on future agenda items

The committee listed the following items for future meetings: Update on Slipstream Grant and the process for the grant, Debrief of Kathy Kunz presentation, Butusov will present on conference attendance, joint discussion with Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, guest speakers, microgrids, update on efficiency and sustainability efforts.

3) Meeting adjournment.

Motion by Gottwald to adjourn, second by Saltes. Motion carried at 7:48 p.m.

DRAFT