



VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB

E. Main Street

Mount Horeb, WI 53572

Phone: (608) 437-6884 Fax: (608) 437-3190

Email: mhinfo@mounthorebwi.info Web: mounthorebwi.info

SUSTAINABILITY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 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, Butosov, Beheler, Grabe, Saltes, Gottwald and Gauger. Fendrick was absent. Administrator Owen was also present.
- 2) Agenda Items
 - a. Consideration of September 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Gottwald, second by Butosov to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
 - b. Consider creation of workgroup for Wildones Seed Grant (Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education) Butosov reported he is working on the application for the district. They have identified planter boxes at the middle school that can be used for the project. After discussion it was determined that a work group was not needed for the project.
 - c. Solar 101 Program

White reported that they have identified an agenda for the Solar 101 program and that CCS would like the program to be held on a Saturday. White will work to have the event recorded for others to view later. To allow ample time to properly prepare for the event, the committee felt February was a good time to hold the program. Motion by Butosov to schedule the event for Saturday February 3, 2024, second by Beheler. Motion carried.
 - d. SolSmart Update

White informed the committee that he met with the Solsamart work group and they are on schedule to submit for designation prior to end of the year. They are still working on the solar check list. WPPI will perform an energy use audit at village properties. Solar arrays are preferred to rooftop. A link will be added to the main page to take people to the utility's solar information page.
 - e. Continued Discussion on Bee Keeping

The committee reviewed information on bee stings, the effect of European honeybees on native pollinators. Gottwald reached out to Black Earth on their experience with allowing bee keeping. So far, they only have 1 active bee keeper and have had no issues. Their application process requires notice to neighbors and if anyone has a bee sting allergy, the application is denied. The consensus of the committee was that more information is needed; they would like to see information to quantify how many pollinator gardens would be needed to offset any negative effects of allowing bee keeping.

f. Discussion on Creation of Sustainability Plan

White reviewed information on the purpose of sustainability plans. The consensus of the committee was that having the plan professionally done and done correctly was important. Administrator Owen to reach out to Slipstream to discuss the grant process for 2024. The committee discussed an internal strategic planning session to set goals for 2024. Gottwald and White will work to prepare a session for next meeting.

g. Discussion on Municipal Composting

White provided information from UW Extension Dane County on composting. The committee discussed options for a regional compost material collection site. The consensus of the committee was that holding an educational session on home composting would be the best way to start.

h. Clarification on Committee Email Communications

Administrator Owen informed the committee on proper use of email and discussion practices. The main takeaways are do not reply all to committee emails and, if you have questions, ask him.

i. Future Agenda Items

Future Items include: Update on Sustain Dane Summit, Solar 101 Planning, Solsmart Update, Strategic Planning, Sustainability Plan Update, Bicycle grant opportunity, Bee Keeping, SNR Flyer and composting update.

3) Meeting adjournment.

Motion by Beheler, second by Grabe to adjourn. Motion carried. 8:26 p.m.