



VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB

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SUSTAINABILITY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 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, Beheler, Grabe, Saltes, Butusov, Halverson and Giles. Members Absent: Gottwald. Also present: Administrator Owen.
- 2) Public Comment - non agenda items
No Public Comment
- 3) Consent Agenda
Motion by Halverson to approve the consent agenda, second by Saltes. Motion carried.
 - a. Consideration of February 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - b. Adopt A Municipality Reports
- 4) Agenda Items
 - a. Presentation on Dane County Composting Station
Delaney Gobster, Business Development and Outreach Coordinator for Dane County Department of Human Waste and Renewables, presented details on the food scrap and composting program. The goal of the program is to keep organic waste out of the landfill. The county partners with Purple Cow Organics for the program. A new residential composting collection program will start in April. Through a partnership with the Madison Children's Museum, they created composting stations that will be placed in various locations in Dane County for residents to drop off their approved waste. Any Dane County resident can register, which includes agreeing to the terms of what can be composted.
 - b. Discussion on Slow Mow May
Larry Kruckman of the Mounds View Garden Club and Slow Mow May committee reported that they are changing the name from No Mow May to be more inclusive of those resistant to not mowing their lawns and slow

now can be practiced all growing season. Kruckman added that so far 150 residents have registered to participate. Administrator Owen reported no changes would be needed from a Village Ordinance, but the committee could consider a supporting proclamation to acknowledge the change in practice.

c. Bag Program Update

Bob Faliveno of the Mount Horeb Lion's Club bag collection program. Trex company provides 1 bench made of recycled material for every 1,000 pounds of plastic bags turned in and logged. So far the club's efforts have resulted in 6 free benches and the 7th is on its way. In the 4 years of the program, they have collected and recycled over 10,000 pounds of plastic bags. Faliveno added that they could recycle more bags if they add partners, as you are limited to 1,000 pounds registered per year and boots on the ground assistance would help with collection. Faliveno said the next step in the program is to advance to the Grass Roots level where we would have our own collection site in Mount Horeb, which requires a building with a loading dock and room for a baler for the plastic bags. Trex provides reimbursement for the cost of the baler and after it is paid off all proceeds could be used locally for environmental projects. The consensus of the committee was to have Faliveno prepare an article for the paper for coordination with the SNR committee. The committee also discussed potential partnerships with the future Green Team and school groups.

d. Green Team Update

Grabe shared information on the Rotary International's Community Corps program which could be used to form the Green Team. The Rotary shares several core goals related to sustainability and environmental stewardship that align with what we envision for the Green Team. The Community Corps would provide a framework that would make forming the Green Team seamless. Rotary membership is not required to join the Community Corps. Grabe will present the idea of forming a community corps for this purpose to the Rotary Board next week. The consensus of the committee was that this would be a great way to start the Green Team and are supportive of Grabe's efforts.

e. Idling Campaigning Flyer

The committee reviewed the updated flyer and thought it looked great. White suggested moving the Village logo to the top sheet to make it more visible. The consensus of the committee was to run the flyer in the utility bill in August, timed with the start of the school's campaign next fall.

5) Future Agenda Items

a. Future Agenda Items

Slipstream will present their benchmarks and discuss community outreach at the April 22nd meeting and Strand engineers will present on the Water Pollution Control Facility and their adaptive phosphorus management program in May. Grabe and Beheler will draft an Earth Day article for the paper for next month. We will review the bag program column from Faliveno and discuss the Rotary/Green Team partnership.

6) Meeting adjournment.

Motion by Halverson, second by Beheler to adjourn. Motion carried 8:35 p.m.