



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 28, 2025 at 7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

- 1) Call to order
Chair White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: White, Beheler, Grabe, Rothle and Saltes. Absent: Best. Also present: Administrator Owen.
- 2) Public Comments
None
- 3) Consent Agenda
Motion by Beheler to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Roethle. Motion carried.
 - a. Consideration of September 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - b. Green Team Report
 - c. Adopt a Municipality Report
- 4) Agenda Items
 - a. Discussion with Nic Veech on Styrofoam Recycling Collection Point
Nic Veech of Eco Synergy Partners, a nonprofit, provided an overview of his Styrofoam recycling program and the importance of keeping Styrofoam out of landfills. As part of his program, Veech provides bags for households or a central collection point for drop off. From there, he takes the Styrofoam to Reynolds Recycling in Madison. Reynolds does not charge for the drop off of the material. Reynolds grinds the Styrofoam down and ships it off to be manufactured into various products. The estimated fee for the first year of service would be \$1,500, including education, bags for collection and collection and transportation. The problem with a central collection site is that it would need to be monitored to verify the Styrofoam is clean, and no other materials are deposited. The Styrofoam must be clean and dry to be recycled. Lori Whitman, citizen member of McFarland's Sustainability Committee, was also present; she started the program on her own with the support of the McFarland Village Board and collects the Styrofoam herself, and when

she has a full load, takes it to Renyolds. Saltes asked if the education component included talking to restaurants about alternatives to Styrafoam take-out containers. Veech stated it did, but price was a big factor in restaurants using them. The committee thanked Veech and Whitman for their time.

b. Approval of Mount Horeb Receration Complex Proclamation

The committee discussed the requirement for 50% native plantings. The consensus was it was good as is and referred to 50% of the species planted versus 50% of the area. The committee discussed the last paragraph and Grabe suggested adding "for recommendation" to the end of the sentence, to strengthen the language. Motion by Saltes to approve the proclamation with the amendment, second by Grabe. Motoin carried.

c. Sustainability Plan Update

Saltes reported that Diane Stojanovich has sent emails to several professors at the Nelson institute about students taking on the project. She is also working to set up a meeting with staff at UniverCity Alliance to discuss the project. Saltes will report back next month on progress.

d. Bird City Designation

Beheler reviewed the packet information with the committee looking for feedback on the timeline for approval, with the budget funds needing to be approved by the end of the year. Beheler feels we have a lot of the work done already between the work of the Committee and her own birding activity. Beheler will work with the Green Team on getting the application together for review at the November meeting for submission for Village Board approval in December. The Committee thanked Beheler for all her work on the application material.

e. Bike Friendly City Update

Scott Roethle reviewed his Blke Friendly City article with the group. Beheler suggested expanding on the levels of recognition. Grabe said he could expand on things that the cities do to earn the levels, such as Madison's Bcycle partnership to offer rentable e-bikes. Roethle will make the edits and submit for publication.

f. Recap of Slipstream Public Engagement Meeting and Final Report

Administrator Owen reported that Slipstream has not finished their work on the plan, but will have it ready for review at our November meeting. He added the public meeting had moderate attendance, but the attendees were all very well engaged and provided good feedback. He also thanked the Library and Library Director Jessica Gretzinger for allowing the display boards to remain up for an extra two weeks to provide additional feedback.

5) Future Agenda Items

Zoning Code Rewrite, Styrafoam Recycling Program Discussion, Bird City Update, Bike Friendly City Update, 2025 Budget Update, Green Team Update,

Slipstream Energy Plan, Update on Green Team Official Rotary Community Corp Announcement, Stewart Lake Stormwater Project.

6) Meeting adjournment.

Motion by White to adjourn, seconded by Beheler. Motion carried. 8:18 p.m.