



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 5:30 PM

**Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 5:33pm

2. ROLL CALL AND CHECK ON REMOTE PARTICIPANTS

Present: Darla LeClair, Tracey Koach, Ben Meinnert, Katherine Dahlke

Not present: Donald DeBruyn, Jay Orvis and Kate Gadd (Resigned)

Staff present: Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl, Jeff Dalke and Greg Buckley

3. REVIEW LAST MINUTES - APPROVE OR CORRECT

Katherine Dahlke made a motion to approve the Minutes from the November 15, 2022, Environmental Advisory Board Meeting. Seconded by Be Meinnert. Motion Passed

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Jeff Dahlke inquired if the City had the ability to test the water in the rivers, especially up-stream of the City. They created an irrigation system drawing water from the East Twin River to water their garden and their turned brown and died off. They are wondering if it was too much Nitrogen or pesticides in the water (July 2022). City does not have that type of testing capabilities. Staff would make inquiries to WDNR and possibly Woodland Dunes staff to see they heard of any other issues during that time frame.

5. GUEST SPEAKER

None

6. CURRENT ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- A. FYVG presentation status: Darla LeClair provided a recap of the direction that the Plan Commission desired and lead a discussion to what still needed to be accomplished to create a pilot program for the spring of 2023.
 - Utilizing Grow it Forward Guides and the garden guidelines. Possibly provide a link on the website for information to applicants.
 - It was recommended by Grow It Forward (Amber Daugs) to strongly suggest that these gardens be raised beds or container gardens for ease of care and establishment.
 - There may be grants available for applicants to pursue raised beds/materials – still being investigated.
 - This would be a pilot program limited to 20 or so participants. This would allow EAB members to interact and monitor these sites to ensure compliance with established guidelines.
 - Would like to bring this back to the February Plan Commission and ultimately Council for approval.
 - Possible Ordinance concerns and revisions necessary. Would ordinances need to be modified for a pilot program to move forward when certain sections of 10-1-15.G specifically do not allow such activity to occur.

B. Winter Educational Series

- Julia Nordyk of Sea Grant, presented on January 12th, 2023, about Green Infrastructure. It had a slightly smaller turnout than the previous presentation but there was good participation and interaction between all that attended.
- Attempting to get a few last minute presenters lined up in the event that one of the scheduled presenters would need to cancel for some reason (weather, illness, other). Thoughts were Mike Mathis and Amber Daugs.
- Next presentation will be Titus Seilheimer, on February 7, 2023, 6:00 PM, at Lester Library and discussing the 'Status of our Waters'.

7. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Discuss contacting local UW Extension Agent to schedule presentation about smaller family farms regarding runoff control and how it impacts the bottom line for them - ON HOLD - No discussion

B. Discuss status of creation of a pamphlet for realtors & general public (insert?) focused on the benefits of trees & associated incentives plus information on green infrastructure projects the buyer can do. ON HOLD – minor discussion pertaining to utilizing technology, such as QR codes to launch to a single location that would provide reference to other links and resources.

C. City match WPPI new tree grant council resolution to come to council soon. City Manager Greg Buckley stated that the City does have a program through the Electric Utility that will reimburse property owners for up to a 50% match up to \$50 per tree for up to 3 trees. This program is significantly under promoted and underutilized. Greg Buckley suggested modifying the program to make it more attractive and would bring that proposal forward at the February Council Meeting. The City should try and publicize it and make it more known around Earth Day and Arbor Day events.
Kathrine Dalhke made a motion to support the proposed Tree Planting Grant Program for Private Residential Properties and to bring it forward to Council for further action. Ben Meinnert seconded the motion. Motion passed

D. Status of new DNR TMDL - Summer 2023? TBD - will keep on agenda as placeholder -

1. DNR still developing load allocations
2. NE Lakeshore TMDL – WDNR providing a webinar on January 31, 2022.
3. Have future discussions relative to having the Wastewater Treatment Plant work with farmers on Adaptive Management measures upstream of the treatment plant.

E. Green Infrastructure Utility Bill insert – Minimal discussion.

1. Provide examples & resources to residents.
2. Emphasize those that the City has already along with private examples
 - a. 25th Street east of Lincoln Ave rain garden
 - b. Vet's Park rain garden
 - c. Nashotah Beach manmade wetland

F. Utility Bill Insert "What Can I Do" - ready for distribution in Spring of 2023 – Intent is to education property owners on what they can do to help reduce stormwater runoff contamination. Darla LeClair will resend this information out to the committee to aid in further discussion in the future.

G: Reinforcing that the Main goal of the Environmental Advisory Board is of stormwater quality and then along the way to promote other environmentally friendly initiatives.

8. NEW ITEMS

A. Katherine Dalhke suggested that we try and create a Sustainable Two Rivers Summit to determine what the citizens of Two Rivers want to see in the way of sustainable, green infrastructure, stormwater management type programs and projects. Further discussion pertaining to this idea occurred with additional suggestions that we try and reach out to other organizations and stakeholders to see what resources and programs that they have and

desire to promote and expand so that there isn't duplication of effort. It was left that further discussion would occur with select members of the EAB committee and City Staff.

9. SET DATE, TIME, AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING(S)

Proposed as Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 5:30pm

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ben Meinnert, seconded by Katherine Dahlke, motion carried (7:14pm)