

Minutes of Sustainability Council for January 8, 2020

Present: Jennifer McLaughlin, chair, Jacob Meshke, Assistant to City Manager, Betty L Beer, Robert McGrath, Norma Chandler, Shelly Brandenburger, Robin Butterbaugh, Nels Granholm, Paul Peterson, Anna Barr

Absent: Jane Hegland, Mike Lockrem, Stephanie Aure

The **Agenda and December minutes** were approved as sent.

We Discussed goals for 2020 and considered existing goals of:

- Sustainability award—Community Engagement
- Social Media Posts—Community Engagement—add posts to promote electric cars, bikes, walking local transport.
- Food Co-op/Pantry
- Local foods/update ag ordinances
- Renewable Energy---especially research 2 options of community owned vs utility owned
- Electric car recharging station
- Research energy efficient guidelines
- Plastic Bag research
- Business Survey—Shelly is nearly done with composing ten questions for local businesses

We added:

- Common Read: “Falter”. Some discussion of author Bill McKibbin coming to campus.
 - We will discuss this at the next meeting— (note: put on agenda)
- Climate Action Plan—long term
- Rain Gardens-- Dr. McMain got a grant for Boys and Girls Club (wraps up in the local foods/ag ordianes line)
- Strategic Plan—Jacob will send an outline copy to all S.C. members
- We discussed the difference between strategic (rain gardens, collection tanks, no mow program) and long-term goals (solar, sustainability plan, climate action initiative, No Mow Education, best practices, etc.—Community Engagement
- Recommend learning opportunities/conference for City Department Heads.
- Research Community garden options (wraps up in the local foods/ag ordianes line)
- Discussed how we should review the Benchmarks to determine goals and action plans.

Single Use Plastic research update:

- Paul reported that it is getting harder by the month to recycle 3M waste
- Jennifer will contact Hy-Vee and Walmart to see if they would receive and recycle plastic bags that we collect from other (new) sites.

Bicycle: RFP for bikeshare—City and University will make a decision about this

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Betty L Beer, secretary