

Village of Cottage Grove
Meeting

Notice of Public

AD-HOC SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

6:00 p.m.

This meeting will take place virtually via Zoom. Please join the meeting from your computer, table or smartphone by visiting, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81038880158?pwd=M3NaSHZWSik3ZHhxUkJFSnFBdVlKQT09>. You can also participate via phone by dialing, 1-312-626-6799, and use Meeting ID: 810 3888 0158. When asked for your participant ID, just press #. When asked for the passcode enter 221.

You may also choose to participate by providing public comment prior to the meeting via email to Village Clerk Lisa Kalata: lkalata@village.cottage-grove.wi.us. If this is a teleconference, virtual or hybrid meeting, please review the Village of Cottage Grove's [policy](#).

1. Call To Order
2. Determination Of Quorum And That The Agenda Was Properly Posted
3. PUBLIC APPEARANCES-Public's Opportunity To Speak About Any Subject That Is Not A Specific Agenda Item
4. Discuss And Consider The Minutes From The February 8, 2022 Meeting.

Documents:

[2-8-22 SUSTAINABILITY MINUTES.PDF](#)

5. BCycle Planning Meeting - Mckenzie Asplund
6. Solar RFP Update - JJ
7. Consideration Of "No Mow May" Resolution

Documents:

[VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD HILLS NO MOW MAY PROCLAMATION 2022.DOCX](#)

8. Earth Day/ #Cleanupthegrove/Rain Barrel & Compost Bin Event Planning
9. Future Agenda Items
10. Adjournment

Any item on the agenda is subject to final action. Notice: Persons needing special accommodations should call 608-839-4704 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other government bodies may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information; no action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice.

Village of Cottage Grove
DRAFT Minutes Ad-Hoc Sustainability Committee
Tuesday, February 8, 2022

1. Call to Order

Motion to nominate Malcheski chair pro tem by Murphy, second by Williams. **Motion** carried with a voice vote 3-0-0.

Malcheski called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. This was a Zoom meeting.

2. Quorum: It was determined that there was a quorum, and that agenda was properly posted. Committee members present were Catie Malcheski, John Williams, Ryan Minor (joined at 6:05) and Heidi Murphy. Nick Hess joined at 6:14.

3. Public Appearances: public's opportunity to speak about any subject that is not a specific agenda item. No members of the public were in attendance.

4. Discuss and consider the minutes from January 11th, 2021.

Motion to approve minutes as presented by Williams, second by Minor. **Motion** carried with a voice vote 4-0-0.

5. Solar RFP Update

The solar panels on the Municipal Building were approved in the 2022 budget. Williams will follow up on the status of the RFP.

6. Review of 2030 Goals

The Village Board approved a resolution on September 21, 2020, establishing several goals related to sustainability and energy efficiency. The committee reviewed the various sections of the resolution to discuss progress. The committee would like to focus on measuring and quantifying progress. Achievements to date include funding for solar on MSB, increased educational events, ordinance updates, improving connectivity for alternate transportation, planned purchase of hybrid police car in 2022, salt reduction programs. New topics to explore this year will require additional coordination among departments to have further impacts. Williams discussed working on alternate fuel options for our large equipment which would likely involve Dane County Waste & Renewables potentially utilizing biodiesel produced from the landfill. Minor and Williams discussed ways that we could measure the salt savings from the salt reduction program by measuring the salt ordered/used and road miles covered by seasonal precipitation. Williams also discussed measuring our offset with the solar installation over time. Malcheski also discussed the success of the Fond du Lac community solar garden and that we should keep an eye on Alliant's expanding pilot programs. Minor discussed opportunities to further reduce kWh use by making additional improvements at our properties. The committee also sees opportunity to incentivize new development to make investments related to sustainability including reducing permit costs or giving permit fee credits when builders meet a to-be-determined criteria such as: increased insulation, certain R-factor, electric lines for EV charging run to the garage of homes. The committee will continue to pursue these additional opportunities and keep record of changes to share our success stories with the

community. Williams also added that we can highlight the sustainability successes of our local businesses as well.

7. **Earth Day/#CleanupTheGrove/Rain Barrel & Compost Bin Event Planning**

The Committee is planning an event associated with Earth Day 2022. The event will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2022. Larson and Murphy worked to secure the vendors for the rain barrel sale and compost bin sale. The rain barrel sale will run just like last year where barrels are pre-ordered and then shipped to the village during the week before Earth Day. The compost bins have a larger minimum requirement to be run the same way. The village will purchase two pallets (36 bins) to be sold during this event and until they run out with specific pricing to be determined soon. The Friends of the Library group is also working on an educational event at the school forest. The Friends are interested in partnering on the event. The Friends are working to coordinate a “How to Compost” educational opportunity that day.

8. **Future Agenda Items**

Earth Day event, B-cycle discussion, and committee merger with the Public Works and Properties Committee.

9. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 6:58 by Malcheski, seconded by Williams. **Motion** carried with a voice vote 5-0-0.

VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD HILLS
A PROCLAMATION RELATING TO
2022 OBSERVANCE OF “NO MOW MAY”



Whereas, there are more than 4,000 native bee species in North America, along with introduced honey bees; and

Whereas, bees are an essential part of ecosystems, pollinating many wild plants and allowing them to produce the seeds, nuts, and fruit that are vital food sources for wild animals; and

Whereas, bees are an essential part of agriculture, pollinating many of the cultivated foods people eat such that the health of bee populations directly impacts our food security; and

Whereas, bees have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, pesticides, disease, and climate change; and

Whereas, more than half of bee species in North America are in decline with 1 in 4 species at risk of extinction; and

Whereas, at least one bee species at risk of extinction, the federally endangered Rusty Patched Bumble Bee, lives in the Village of Shorewood Hills; and

Whereas, municipalities have embraced their responsibility for conserving these important animals by taking steps to install and promote native and pollinator-friendly landscapes and reduce pesticide and herbicide use in their communities; and

Whereas, some municipalities, such as the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, have supported pollinator conservation, in part, through a “No Mow May” community science initiative that encourages property owners to limit their lawn mowing practices during the month of May to provide vital early spring flowers for bees that emerge from hibernation; and

Whereas, in 2020, 435 Appleton property owners registered for the initiative, which ended up providing 40 additional acres of land with food resources for pollinators; and

Whereas, the City of Appleton found that No Mow May lawns had a fivefold increase in bee abundance and a threefold increase in bee diversity in comparison to nearby parkland that was mowed regularly; and

Whereas, the City of Appleton found strong community enthusiasm with the majority of participants willing to continue this initiative and other pollinator friendly practices at their homes; and

Whereas, the Village of Shorewood Hills participated in No Mow May in 2021 and also found strong community enthusiasm with 55 single family homes (~9% of single family homes in the Village) registering for the event and 79% saying they would participate again in 2022; and

Whereas, the Village of Shorewood Hills is a leader in sustainability, recognizes that urban landscapes provide critical habitat for pollinators, and wishes to encourage its citizens to play an active role in conserving pollinators through the management of their own land; and

Now, therefore be it resolved, the Shorewood Hills Village Board hereby proclaims May 1st – 31st, 2022 as “No Mow May” in the Village of Shorewood Hills, Wisconsin, and encourages all residents, businesses and property owners to refrain from mowing their property to promote pollinator-friendly habitat and awareness; and

Be it further resolved, the Shorewood Hills Village Board encourages all residents, businesses and property owners to grow a variety of native plants that bloom across the season – early spring through fall – so that food resources are always available to pollinators, leave the leaves in yards through the fall to help provide winter nesting sites for bees, and refrain from using lawn or plant pesticides and herbicides that can harm or kill pollinators.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Village President _____

David J. Benforado