

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

SUSTAINABLE GRAFTON AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 21, 2009

The Sustainable Grafton Ad-Hoc Committee meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chairman Rick Flood.

Members present: Rick Flood, Pamela Atterberry, Ginny Plumeau, John Gassert and Jim Brunnuell.

Members absent: Laura Weber, Roger Kirgues and Paul Van de Sand.

Staff/Officials present: Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy and Administrative Assistant Melissa Depies.

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

None

MINUTES

Motion by Jim Brunnuell, seconded by Pam Atterberry, to approve the August 19, 2009, Sustainable Grafton Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes as presented. Approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

One-2-Five Energy Management Assessment

Rick Flood distributed the Benchmarking Summary for Committee review. He suggested that full review and discussion of this report wait until Paul Van de Sand is present to explain the report in more detail.

Mr. Flood suggested that Committee members look over the report and make recommendations as to what can be done with the information provided.

Grafton Area Chamber of Commerce Breakfast – October 7, 2009.

Rick Flood stated that there were approximately 35 people in attendance at the Chamber breakfast. Mr. Flood's presentation included a brief overview of the Sustainable Ad-Hoc Committee, what the Committee is working on, as well as what has already been accomplished. Mr. Kirgues did an extensive presentation on We Energies programs and incentives that are available to businesses and customers.

Sustainability Guide Plan

Rick Flood noted that two sections of the Guide Plan have been completed. They are Stormwater Management and Education.

Mr. Flood also noted that he included language received from the Water and Wastewater Utility in the Energy section. In 2010, the Utility will replace the current plant boiler with a combined boiler/heat exchanger that operates on natural gas, as well as the methane gas produced by the digesters. Director of Public Works/Village Engineer Dave Murphy noted that the project was one of the recommendations that came from the Johnson Controls Investigation for energy savings.

Mr. Murphy and Ginny Plumeau highlighted the Stormwater Management section. They explained the items that were added, what they mean, and how they propose to achieve them.

Mr. Murphy noted that in an effort to reduce sodium chloride and calcium chloride runoff to the waterways, the Village will be using a salt brine and beet juice formula. Salt brine is used to pre-wet the roads before a storm which keeps the snow from hard packing to the road and accelerates the effectiveness of the salt used during the storm. Beet juice is used in conjunction with the salt application. The beet juice is more effective at lower temperatures than salt alone and it reduces the amount of salt needed since helps to activate the salt in a more efficient manner.

John Gassert questioned if there have been any reports of vehicle discoloration or floor staining as a result of tracking with the use of beet juice. Mr. Murphy responded that there have been no reports from other communities that have used beet juice. He also noted that the Town of Cedarburg will be using beet juice as well.

Ginny Plumeau stated that the Village should take the lead on the Phosphorus ban by eliminating the use of Phosphorus fertilizers in the Village. Phosphorus fertilizers promote the growth of algae blooms in the waterways.

Mr. Murphy noted that expanding the water quality monitoring effort on the Milwaukee River is proposed to be done by volunteers; therefore, it is not a direct cost to the Village. He noted that the sediment exposed from the dam removal will not need special handling; it can be used as a cover material.

It was also noted that the Department of Natural Resources has indicated that the Village does not need to test all outfall structures; however, they want the funds, typically used for testing, to be used to correct outfall areas where there are detects.

Mr. Murphy explained that reducing infiltration and inflow is a function of the Water and Wastewater Utility. John Gassert questioned if the Utility has investigated the connection of sump pumps to the sanitary sewer. Mr. Murphy responded that there is a procedure in place that if the sump pump is currently connected, it must be disconnected and corrected at the time of sale. He noted

that there are very few properties in the Village that are currently connected to the sanitary sewer.

Ginny Plumeau explained various grant and sponsorship opportunities. Some of the grants are foundation funded, some tax funded, some are private sponsorship, as well as donations.

Mr. Flood requested that performance indicators or benchmarks be added.

Pam Atterberry highlighted the Education section of the plan. She noted that this section stayed consistent with the Promote Green, Buy Green, Save Green theme.

There was a brief discussion on who could take the lead and where funding would come from on some of the proposed activities.

Rick Flood requested volunteers for the remaining sections. Committee members suggested the followings:

- Energy - Roger Kirgues and Paul Van de Sand
- Greenhouse Gas – Roger Kirgues and Paul Van de Sand
- Water Use & Conservation – Tom Krueger
- Waste Minimization / Recycling – Dave Murphy
- Reduction of Use and Safe Disposal of Hazardous Materials – Rick Flood
- Pest/Weed/Invasive Species – Ginny Plumeau
- Outdoor Light/Light Pollution – Roger Kirgues and Paul Van de Sand
- Transportation – John Gassert

Mr. Flood noted that he will contact those members not present to discuss this with them.

NEW BUSINESS

Kennedy Elementary School event – February 2010

Rick Flood noted that he was approached by a representative from Kennedy Elementary School who explained that the school will be having a “Green Fair”. They asked if a representative of the Sustainable Committee could attend the event. Mr. Murphy stated that he believe that this would be something that would be done during the regular working day.

Mr. Flood offered to do an age appropriate presentation on what you can do in your own home to make it more sustainable.

ADJOURN

Motion by John Gassert, seconded by Pam Atterberry, to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. Approved unanimously.