

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND **Sustainability & Natural Resources** *NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING*
Committee

Monday, June 13, 2022

6:00 PM

McFarland Municipal Center
Community Room

AGENDA

You are invited to this meeting through a Zoom webinar. The public is strongly encouraged to watch and participate in these meetings remotely through either the webinar or telephone options listed below.

PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO JOIN THE ZOOM WEBINAR:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82640491458>

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Webinar ID: 826 4049 1458

Press *9 to raise/lower hand. Press *6 to mute/unmute.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.
2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.
 - a. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee. Please remember this is a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom online meeting platform. Zoom meeting attendees wishing to address the Committee may do so using the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform. You may state your name, address, and provide your comments to the Committee for their consideration. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the Committee should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. Members of the public may speak during public appearances or during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to sustainability@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.
 - a. Motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2022 Sustainability & Natural Resource Committee meeting.
4. BUSINESS.
 - a. Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding Village participation in the TerraCycle Program, request by Lydia Mikelbank, McFarland Girl Scout Troop 1015.
 - b. Discussion and possible recommendation to the Village Board on Resolution 2022-16 to join Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition, WLGCC.
 - c. Discussion regarding the Village's Sustainability Plan
5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.
 - a. Monday, July 11, 2022 at 6:00 PM

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in an accessible location or format should contact the McFarland Municipal Center at (608)838-3153, 5915 Milwaukee Street, McFarland, Wisconsin, or village.clerk@mcfarland.wi.us by 2:00 p.m. at least 5 business days prior to the meeting so that any necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate each request. If the meeting or request is less than 5 business days from the meeting, requests for accommodations may still be made and reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate each request.

Minutes
Sustainability & Natural Resources
Committee Meeting
May 9, 2022

Members Present: Mike Flaherty, Ed Wreh, Kitty Brussock, Angela Freedman, Bruce Fischer, David Wilson (joined at 6:08 PM)

Members Absent: Judy Taber, Darrel Waldera

Staff Present: Sayer Larson, Kong Thao, Phil McDade, Aimee Irwin, Jim Hessling, Matt Schuenke (joined at 6:16 PM)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Flaherty called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

No minutes to be approved as this was the first meeting for the new committee.

4. BUSINESS.

a. Committee introductions and discussion regarding the role of the Committee.

Flaherty directed for Larson to start introductions then named the following committee members to join in. After introductions were finished, Larson provided an explanation on the differences and overlap between the Parks and Rec Committee and Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee. Larson emphasized the importance sustainability needed than previously mentioned in past committees.

b. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding acceptance of the Middle "School Forest" land from the McFarland School District to expand Indian Mound Park

Schuenke provided a summary of the agenda item with details on trail maintenance, existing features about the school forest, proceedings on transfer, and future activity for the acquired property. Schuenke stated that the Joint School Board and Village Board Committee and the Parks and Recs Committee are supportive of the concept. If approved by SNR committee, this will be sent to the Village Board on May 24th, 2022, for approval for acquisition.

Flaherty asked if there was any exchange related from the Village associated with the transfer of the school forest. Schuenke affirmed the exchange will be at no cost to the Village, the only costs associated include the proceeding fees and the incurred maintenance expenses overtime.

Wreh asked for further details of the associated fees of the transfer, dimensions for the property, and the capacity of workload for Public Works staffing.

Schuenke stated survey costs and legal fees to be around \$20,000-\$25,000. Since the property has not been surveyed in about 50 years, this is to be expected and a necessary process to be defined in the deed. This will be a shared 50/50 expense between the Village and School District. Larson stated the capacity of work is uncertain at this point as it is not surveyed and examined.

Freedman asked if this would have any impact on the Exchange Street reconstruction. Schuenke affirmed the impact would be limited to only the southern boundary indicated near the intersection of Exchange Street and Highland Drive. What is impacted would be restored.

Brussock asked Schuenke about the boundary of the school lines and connectivity through the woods. Schuenke stated the location of the property line will likely be situated along the walkway and the existing pathways will continue to exist.

Flaherty asked about existing mounds in the area and timeframe of tree removal. Schuenke affirmed there were none located in the area. Larson preferred a timeframe for tree removal to be prior to the land swap. Schuenke affirmed there is still about 2-3 months of negotiations before anything happens.

Wreh asked about partnership with school on the reuse of lumber. Larson stated the wood removed would be unusable and mostly degraded.

Wreh motioned to recommend approval to the Village Board in order to transfer ownership and jurisdiction of the "School Forest" from the School District to the Village of McFarland. Fischer seconded.

The motion passes with a vote of 6-0.

- c. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the award of contract for Lewis Park Lake Access planning and design services.

Hessling provided the background and summary on the agenda item. The RFP received one proposal. This came from Parkitecture, an organization who has frequently collaborated with the Village in past projects.

Brussock commented that the location of the access point would impact the bird viewing platform. Hessling will provide feedback to the planners of this concern.

Larson commented that there will be an educational component included in the project and not solely a launch point.

Wreh confirmed with Hessling the cost to be \$10,800. Wreh asked about the timeframe for the project. Hessling stated the project to be in Fall 2022.

Wreh motioned to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the proposal from Parkitecture for Lewis Park Lake Access planning and design services. Seconded by Fischer.

The motion passes with a vote of 6-0.

- d. Discussion and action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding the award of a contract for a management plan for conservancy areas within the park system.

Larson provided summary on the agenda item. This action would improve the existing management plan and its capacity by the Village. Larson stated that of the five proposals received for the RFP, the deciding factor to choose RES Great Lakes was their importance on public outreach and education. Larson corrected the plan budget to be \$48,180. This includes the \$3,600 optional add-on focus group study.

Wreh commented on the cost savings with this project per what was stated in the packet, down from \$60,250. Flaherty asked about the timeframe for this project. Larson stated it is uncertain at this time due to number of conservancy areas (10).

Wreh motioned to recommend approval to the Village Board regarding the proposal from RES Great Lakes for the conservancy management planning services in the amount of \$48,180, which includes the optional add-on of \$3,600. Seconded by Freedman.

The motion passes with a vote of 6-0.

- e. Update regarding Native American mounds plan.

Larson provided the summary on this agenda item. Larson stated the feedback was positive and with changes to the vocabulary used, such as using “Native American Mounds” instead of using “Indian Mounds”. Larson stated Quackenbush, of the Ho-Chunk Nation, was interested in visiting the existing mounds in McFarland to provide feedback on maintenance and care, while inviting Larson to also visit mounds under their direct care. Larson intends to maintain contact with Quackenbush to further discussion on future Native American projects in the Village.

Flaherty asked about the number of mounds within the care of the Village. Larson state there are 13 throughout the Village.

Flaherty asked about the proper usage of “Indian” versus “Native American” terminology for the renaming of the mounds. Larson affirmed from Quackenbush the preferred term was “Native American”. Larson stated the opportunity to rename all existing mounds can be included with the acquisition of the School Forest. Flaherty concurred. Larson stated the timeframe at this time is uncertain.

- f. Discussion regarding the Village’s Sustainability Plan.

Thao gave the summary on the background of the Sustainability Plan and provided that the agenda item is up for discussion only. Thao recommended to the committee to review the plan for the next Sustainability & Natural Resources meeting on June 13.

Wreh asked about formal process

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

- a. Monday, June 13, 2022, at 6:00 PM

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Wreh motioned to adjourn, Brussock seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

**VILLAGE OF
McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: Monday, June 13, 2022

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

CONTACT: Kong Thao, Associate Planner

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Village Board regarding Village participation in the TerraCycle Program, request by Lydia Mikelbank, McFarland Girl Scout Troop 1015.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

ISSUE SUMMARY:

This item is for discussion and possible action for a recycling initiative called TerraCycle by Lydia Mikelbank from McFarland Girl Scout Troop 1015 to collect used plastic bags. The proposed location dropoff for plastic will be in the municipal center. Residents can enter from the main entrance and find a drop off bin in the main lobby. The applicant is working to earn their silver award and incorporate an additional recycling program for the Village. The Girl Scout Troops have invested funds in Zero Waste Boxes to collect plastic bags.

STAFF COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

1. Has the applicant communicated with the Lion's Club about their existing Recycle Beyond the Bag program already taking place in the Municipal Center?
2. Is the applicant open to collaboration on the recycling program to offset double programming occurring in the same location? Will this still award the Applicant their silver award?
3. Has the applicant researched other locations in the Village?
4. What is the duration of the program proposed by the applicant?

Staff recommend to approve the TerraCycle program proposed by Lydia Mikelbank from McFarland Girl Scout Troop 1015.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None.

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

Sustainability Plan - Village of McFarland, 2021

This request is consistent with the Sustainability Plan's Vision Statement for the Solid Waste



section found on page 18. The statement reads as follows:

"The residents, businesses, and government of McFarland utilize the most efficient and effective methods available to reduce, reuse, compost, and recycle waste. Village government uses incentives and policies to limit unnecessary waste and promote the lesser use and safe disposal of hazardous materials. Village residents and businesses are knowledgeable and responsible about waste management methods, and they value and celebrate the creative reuse of goods and materials."

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

None.

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to recommend to the Village Board participation in the TerraCycle Program as requested by Lyida Mikelbank, McFarland Girl Scout Troop 1015.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

**VILLAGE OF
McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: Monday, June 13, 2022

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

CONTACT: Kong Thao, Associate Planner

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion and possible recommendation to the Village Board on Resolution 2022-16 to join Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition, WLGCC.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

In 2021, the Village was invited to join the WLGCC by Kathy Kuntz, Dane County Director of the Office of Energy & Climate Change. Kuntz attended a meeting of the Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee on August 13, 2021 to provide an overview of the organization. The Ad Hoc Committee was supportive of the Village joining. However, due to staff limitations at the time, the Village's Community & Economic Development Department was not able to officially join.

ISSUE SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND

Since last August, Community & Economic Development Department staff have been participating in meetings with the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) as time permits. Due to the capacity of the department, participation has been limited and the Village is not an official member. With the recent hire of the Associate Planner, Kong Thao, the Department has expanded its capacity and is now able to become an official member of WLGCC. Below is WLGCC's mission statement. WLGCC is not a 501(c)(3) or a privately owned organization. WLGCC exists to connect local governments on resources towards clean energy solutions and decarbonization. An example of an action by WLGCC involves a letter of opposition drafted in March 2022 that was sent to Governor Evers recommending a veto to SB 573/AB 588 relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure. Each member community has the option to sign on to any WLGCC position statements based on whether it is applicable to their community.

WLGCC MISSION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition is an organization which coordinates voices for local governments that are pursuing clean energy and climate change solutions in the state. The Coalition provides a platform for members to collaborate on overcoming barriers to decarbonization, accelerating local climate change solutions and ensuring the benefits of the clean energy economy are distributed to everyone throughout the state. Local governments and elected officials – as both large electricity users and policy making entities -- have a unique perspective on the threats and challenges that climate change poses, a perspective that is often overlooked in the policy debates.



Our members have come to understand that climate change poses severe risks to our communities and that we cannot avoid the worst effects of climate change without effective state policy. As we engage collectively in this effort, we will prioritize solutions that recognize the myriad of economic, health and equity benefits associated with climate action in our communities and that meet the needs of our disproportionately affected minority and low-income citizens in our cities and towns.

Current members include Dane County, City of Madison, City of Sun Prairie, City of Middleton, Waukesha County, City of Wauwatosa, City of Milwaukee, City of Racine, City of Eau Claire, City of Altoona, Eau Claire County, City of La Crosse, and City of Green Bay. Included in the packet is the draft resolution to the Village Board for approval to become a full member.

STAFF COMMENTS

The task of attending the scheduled monthly meetings is already done by Staff. Staff affirms that the resources and communication shared at the meetings does well to further increase the capacity of the Community & Economic Development Department and its staff towards meeting the actionable items from the Sustainability plan. The meetings are scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month from 2:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M, unless otherwise rescheduled.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

There are no membership fees for WLGCC.

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

Sustainability Plan - Village of McFarland, 2021

The mission and goals of WLGCC are consistent with the overall advancement of action plans found in the Sustainability Plan. WLGCC includes intergovernmental collaboration with access to resources and funding opportunities needed to meet several action items included in the Sustainability Plan. The plan also establishes various Village sustainable goals which include 100% of municipal energy from renewable resources by 2040, and community-wide by 2050.

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to recommend to the Village Board approval of Resolution 2022-16 to join the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2022-16 Resolution Joining the WLGCC

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-16

A RESOLUTION JOINING THE WISCONSIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE COALITION (WLGCC)

WHEREAS, the Village of McFarland has cause for concern regarding the negative impacts of climate change on greater society and within the local community insofar as climate change increases the risk of flooding, extreme weather, public infrastructure damage, and economic loss; and

WHEREAS, addressing and mitigating the major contributing factors, such as the burning of fossil fuels, is imperative to slow climate change and protect the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, on July 26th, 2021 the Village Board accepted the completion of the McFarland Sustainability Plan establishing various Village sustainability goals including generating 100% of municipal energy from renewable resources by 2040, and community-wide by 2050; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 Dane County adopted a Climate Action Plan establishing a goal of 100% reduction in greenhouse gas emission by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050, and local governments are important actors to help implement the State's goal and Clean Energy Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC) is comprised of local governments that work together to seek low-carbon and clean energy solutions, and members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to communities and that the worst effects of climate change cannot be avoided without effective State policy; and

WHEREAS, WLGCC supports the following solutions and strategies:

- Increased funding for and emphasis on energy efficiency, including the Focus on Energy program
- Increased clean energy choices, including:
 - universal access to renewable energy and a diversity of renewable business models to support all Wisconsin customers
 - access to fuel switching, demand response and advanced technology solutions
- Opportunities for communities to encourage increased resource efficiency in new construction and retrofit projects, consistent with community-level goals
- Increased data sharing and transparency between and among key stakeholders so that communities can easily assess progress toward carbon reduction goals
- Policy and program support for the electrification of buildings and transportation systems in ways that reduce carbon emissions and increase economic prosperity
- Incentives and regulations that institutionalize and further smart growth development to preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands

- Research, development, investment and training in clean energy industries/workforce
- Innovative approaches to transportation policy that reduce vehicle miles traveled and increase health and wellness
- A state-level plan to retire all coal plants by 2040 and all other fossil fuel generating facilities as quickly as possible, no later than 2045.
- Partner with the Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy to develop a platform and model resolutions for all local governments to adopt climate change resolutions; and

WHEREAS, there is no fees or dues to becoming a WLGCC member; and

WHEREAS, the Village of McFarland shares the goals of the WLGCC.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Village Board that the Village of McFarland, WI officially joins the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition and will contribute to sustaining its advocacy efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Community & Economic Development Department Director and Associate Planner are authorized to comment on or generally support WLGCC efforts that are in the best interest of furthering the Village's sustainability and carbon reduction goals.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the McFarland Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held this 28th day of June, 2022.

APPROVED:

Carolyn A. Clow, Village President

ATTEST:

Cassandra Suettinger, Clerk-Treasurer

RESOLUTION # 2022-16	
MOTION	SECOND
ACTION	DATE
Adopted	
Referred	
Tabled	
Withdrawn	
Defeated	
Published	
INDIVIDUAL VOTING RECORD	
Brassington-	St. Clair-
Clow-	Nelson-
Flaherty-	Wreh-
Jerke-	
VOTING RESULTS	
Motion Carried	
Motion Defeated:	

**VILLAGE OF
McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: Monday, June 13, 2022

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Community Development

CONTACT: Kong Thao, Associate Planner

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion regarding the Village's Sustainability Plan

PREVIOUS ACTION:

May 9, 2022 - Staff introduced the Sustainability Plan and asked committee members to review and provide feedback on the plan.

ISSUE SUMMARY:

At their July 26, 2021 meeting, the Village Board accepted the Village's Sustainability Plan that was created by the former Ad-Hoc Sustainability Committee after a year-long planning effort.

Staff presented the Sustainability Plan at the May 16th S&NR Committee meeting for committee members to review at the June meeting. What were some things identified in the plan that committee members found interesting?

Additional discussion questions:

1. What are some items that the Committee/Staff should be focused on addressing first?
2. What items might require a budget request that the Committee could plan for next year in 2023?
3. Were there some parts of the plan that sparked your interest and wanted to explore further?

The link for the file can be found here: www.mcfarland.wi.us/399/Sustainability-Planning

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None.

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

[Sustainability Plan - Village of McFarland, 2021](#)

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

None.

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This agenda item is presented for discussion only.

ATTACHMENTS:

None