

Sustainable Madison Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes April 21, 2020

Due to the corona virus outbreak, this meeting is being conducted on Zoom. Chairperson, Kathleen Caccavale, called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

STATEMENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting of the Sustainable Madison Advisory Committee (SMAC) Meeting was provided by transmitting a copy of the meeting notice to the Madison Eagle and Morris County Daily Record, posting a copy on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the Hartley Dodge Memorial, and filing a copy in the office of the Clerk. This notice was made available to members of the general public.”

The following members acknowledged their presence:

Kathleen Caccavale, Chairperson/Regular Member
Peter Fried, Resident/Regular Member
Lisa Jordan, Resident/Regular Member
Joan Maccari, MEC Representative/Secretary/Regular Member
Stephen Tindall, School Board Representative/Regular Member
Maureen Byrne, Borough Council Liaison/Regular Member

Absent members:

Gene Cracovia, Marilyn Musielski, Angelique Devost

Guests:

Claire Whitcomb, Chair Madison Environmental Commission (MEC)
Max Drucker, student volunteer, Drew University

March 17 minutes were unanimously approved, with one minor deletion. Minutes will be submitted to Rosenet.

Steve Tindall reported on schools:

Director of Facilities, Michael Zulla, will be leaving his position on May 13, 2020. He was a valuable contact for questions regarding school grounds and infrastructure. There is interest in updating the district sustainability policy, which can earn SJ points.

Kathi Caccavale asked if the schools were participating in ‘Future Ready Schools’ certification, which can also earn SJ points. It’s a program related to the use of technology in the classroom.

Kathi Caccavale reported on SJ updates:

Due to CoViD19, June 14 is the extended deadline for initial submission of planned actions.

Other deadlines will be extended this year as well.

Free tech support continues to be available through SJ.

The Sustainable Jersey summit will be an online event this year.

There are new actions in 2020 that can count towards a Gold Star in water.

In addition to Bronze and Silver certification levels, SJ is considering Gold Level Certification, requiring 600+ points.

The Middle School Climate Action contest is something we should consider.

SJ mentioned in a webinar that some towns are considering creating a sustainable energy manager position and that smaller towns might want to band together to hire a regional sustainable energy manager.

Maureen Byrne commented on the good regional cooperation with nearby towns that Madison is enjoying. A regional sustainable energy manager would be worth considering.

Members reviewed progress on their individual assigned action items.

Alternatives to traditional Farmers' markets are being discussed.

There is some question about the need for a Green Development Checklist. A draft was created when the last ERI was developed, but it was never adopted.

Claire reported that Bridget Daley of MEC sent out a press release about composting in general and Java Compost pick-up service in particular. The Farm at Green Village has appropriate composters for sale.

Peter Fried introduced Max Drucker, class of 21 at Drew University. He is an environmental science and economics student, who was brought onto the team by Lisa Jordan. He is working with Peter on energy items and carbon footprint items. They are working on software to reduce the work in doing the carbon footprint data each year, by automating the interface to utility data.

The next SMAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 12, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joan Maccari.