

Commission for a Greener Tomorrow
May 23, 2011
Maple Room, City Hall

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Fred Heider. Those in attendance were Brian Bushnell, Mark Duginski, Fred Heider, Amanda Ostrowski and Scott Miles.
- II. Motion to approve the minutes from our April meeting was made by Brian B. and seconded by Scott M. The motion passed.
- III. Motion made by Scott M to appoint Brian Bushnell as Vice Chairperson. Mark D. seconded it and it passed.
- IV. Sustainability Forum Summary – Fred reviewed the work done and the City Pages article prior to the Sustainability Forum. Approx 35 people attended the municipal sectional on Friday, May 13th. The business and family sectionals were cancelled due to lack of numbers. The power point presented by Dunn Co on their sustainability plan will be available on our web site. Lynn Markham's power point will be added to the web site in the near future. The seven mistakes that sustainability movements make will be included in the web site too. Additional notes were prepared by Mary Kluz and passed out at the meeting.

Mark brought up the booth he will have at this year's Energy Fair in Custer, WI. Any brochures or materials from the Commission or the Sustainability Forum could be handed out at his site. Amanda Ostrowski (Marathon Co Health Dept) commented that a contact list could be created by those visiting Mark's booth that were interested in being on the Commission's mailing list.

- V. Mark D talked about his tree project he hoped to create after the Merrill tornado ripped apart numerous homes and buildings several weeks ago. Unlike other communities ravaged by tornados, Merrill was uninterested in doing anything sustainable with the damaged trees (wood). Lumber companies contracted for almost all the wood leaving almost nothing for Mark's project.
- VI. The School Garden idea is going forward in Edgar at St. John's Elementary School. Plants and seeds have already been started under grow lights and outside planting should happen soon. Additional discussion of other garden sites included the Community Food Garden at the Bridge Street Clinic. This site is being developed as a model community garden and sells 12x12

plots. Hsu's provided top soil and Home Depot donated work and materials to build the raised bed plots. The Master Gardeners also provide educational lessons for those renting plots. Contact Tania Curran at 715-848-4884 ext 267 for more information. The hope is that other sites will be made available throughout the community in the future. To that end, Brian made the motion, and Scott seconded, to donate \$400 to the Bridge Street Community Garden for future site development (in 2011) of community garden sites, and it passed. Amanda has written a grant and would like to purchase produce bags (proceeds going to the Woman's Community) from the Commission. Brian will contact Bob Karls who was heading up that program for the Commission.

- VII. Downtown Wausau Bike Parking was discussed. The comprehensive Bike Ped plan for our community does not include any destination parking. Brad Lenz, Wausau City Planner, was having a meeting May 24th to set aside selected parking sites in the downtown area that would be designated for bike parking only. Several of these sites will be adjacent to the 400 Block.
- VIII. Other – Attempts to move the Commission into a Bike-Ped type sub-committee (under Marathon Co) to work on county-wide sustainability plans has not progressed to date. It is hoped that Mayor Tipple will work to establish this plan.
- IX. Discussion of summer plans concluded that we will not meet over the summer months. In the fall, Fred will call a meeting to determine the future role for the Commission for a Greener Tomorrow.
- X. The meeting was adjourned with Brian making the motion to adjourn and Amanda seconding it. Have a good summer!!!