



# ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Committee Room - City Hall, 3rd Floor 1717  
E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

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## MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 5:34 pm

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Board Members:** Darla LeClair, Tracey Koach, Douglas Brandt, Shannon Derby

**Remote:** Donald DeBruyn

**Excused:** Jay Orvis, Jake Glaeser, Corinne Weis

**Staff & Others:** Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the January 16, 2024, Environmental Advisory Board meeting

Tracey Koach made a motion to approve the January 16, 2024, Environmental Advisory Board minutes, seconded by Shannon Derby. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT** - None

5. **NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**A. TRFD Garden (offered by Chief Dave Murack) planning**

**1. Trial for non-traditional/dwarf vegetable plant for FYVG 2024**

Need volunteers to do these projects (preparation and maintenance of front yard vegetable gardens). If we cannot find any volunteers, put these projects on hold.

- Possibly check with Boy Scouts.
- Park & Rec summer camp program addition. Four days per week for six to eight weeks over summer.
- Possibly the fire department may be able to help with tilling, planting, weeding, watering and picking since is at their site.

Want to consider using dwarf varieties (special order seeds/plants) to keep the plants under three feet tall.

**B. Reward program for pervious surface installation**

\* Street credit policy – reward for installing more pervious surfaces. (Look/revise existing credit policy?)

\* Charged for impervious surfaces – stormwater fee/charge

\* Don – Wouldn't a reduction of gray infrastructure to green reduce area which reduces the fee?

\* Darla would possibly like more.

**C. EAB/Main Street's Senior Center vertical planting and mural project**

See conceptual photo for west wall of senior center. Note that this is within the Business

Improvement District and has been discussed previously at the senior center. Main Street would like to donate resources towards it.

There are concerns about maintaining it. It would be at a high traffic (bus stop) with a lot of pedestrian traffic. Possibly look at indoor improvements for air quality. Should talk with the Friends of the Senior Center for approval of a/the mural.

## 6. ONGOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. **EAB Mission Statement update** – Council adopted last month. Item is complete.

### B. **Front yard vegetable garden (FYVG)**

1. **AB 457/SB 455 Wisconsin Vegetable Garden Protection Act update**  
AB 457/SB 455 on potential PSC oversight of stormwater utilities. No real action 10/16/23.  
AB 379 – Public Hearing Sept 2023 – out of committee on local government to committee on rules 1/4/24  
SB 376 – PH January 2024 – no further update
2. **Publicize** – Seehafer and for further review, will do PSAs on it.
3. **Supply partners** – Kalbert's Garden & Gifts will be involved; check with Domnitz Flowers; check with Menards – supply pile? Set aside?
4. **Update City website and make sure all forms and links are up to date** – No discussion.
5. **Garden signs - use old or status of new sign – update** – Okay to use last year's signs.
6. **Set up citizen-led cooperative**
  - a. Create relationships with local food banks or Senior Center for donation of surplus produce - No discussion
  - b. Direct sell surplus produce - Can't do?

### C. Winter Educational Series

1. 2023 Series Dates
  - a. October 5th
  - b. November 2nd
2. 2024
  - a. January 4th
  - b. February 1st
  - c. March 7<sup>th</sup> - Stormwater (focusing on when we need to do something and what TR has done so far)
  - d. April 4<sup>th</sup> – Climate Change
  - e. May 7<sup>th</sup> - Recycling
3. Possible subjects for Series #3 (need to choose topics and recruit presenters)
  - a. Wisconsin wildlife protection programs
  - b. The importance of sustainable development for future generations
  - c. Repurposing old materials into new, functional items
  - d. Vertical plantings \
  - e. Pollinator lawns or bee lawns > Combine
  - f. Home composting /
  - g. Promoting the benefits of tree planting (repeat program subject)
  - h. Beginning bird watching and attracting birds (Woodland Dunes)-Shannon will contact
  - i. Water Ways – Keep Waters Healthy (Nancy Gill)

Shannon will prepare a survey form for series attendance.

**7. OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF NEEDED**

**TMDL** – Nothing new. Urban Non-Point Planning Grant was acknowledged by WDNR and February 19, 2024, city council meeting approval of professional service agreement with McMahon Associates was approved to aid in fulfilling the items/tasks within the grant proposal with the primary item being the remodeling to see where the city is relative to chemical reduction goals.

**8. SET DATE, TIME, AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Proposed for Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 5:30 pm

**9. ADJOURNMENT: 6:31 pm**

Tracy Koach made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Douglas Brandt. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Matthew R Heckenlaible  
Public Works Director / City Engineer