



# Wauwatosa, WI

## Sustainability Committee

### Meeting Minutes - Final

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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Wednesday, January 8, 2025

6:30 PM

Zoom Only:  
<https://servetosa.zoom.us/j/81245734808>,  
Meeting ID: 812 4573 4808

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#### Regular Meeting

#### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

#### ROLL CALL

**Present 10**      Member, Chair Michael Arney  
Member Heather Deaton  
Member Zoe Hastert  
Member John Horky  
Member Jill McClellan  
Member Steven Ostrenga  
Member Katherine Riebe  
Member Ian Schmitt-Ernst  
Member Rob Zimmerman  
Aldersperson Liaison Melissa Dolan

**Excused 1**      Member Seth Flanders

*Brady Steigauf, Focus On Energy, present*  
*Kurt Baehmann, Community Member, present*

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the minutes of the December 4, 2024, regular meeting [25-0022](#)  
**RESULT:** APPROVED  
**MOVER:** Michael Arney  
**SECONDER:** John Horky  
**Aye:** 9      Arney, Deaton, Hastert, Horky, McClellan, Ostrenga, Riebe, Schmitt-Ernst, Zimmerman, and Dolan  
**Excused:** 1      Flanders

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Announcements and upcoming activities/events [25-0023](#)  
*Zoe Hastert shared that IRA and other sustainability funding is expected in the new federal administration.*  
*Steve Ostrenga shared that funding could be limited in other ways despite the programs being retained.*  
*Zoe Hastert shared information about a Dept of Energy Industrial Decarbonization grant where the DOE*

splits the cost of a building efficiency project up to \$300K for qualifying small and mid sized manufacturing facilities. Steve Ostrenga shared the RENEW Summit is scheduled for Thurs 2/6/25 in Madison. <https://www.renewwisconsin.org/renewable-energy-summit/>. Ian Schmitt-Ernst reminded the group of the new state assembly. Heather Deaton shared the 'save the date' for the WLGCC in-person workshop on 3/6/25. The committee hopes the new hire will attend. Mike Arney shared the Green Tier Communities quarterly meeting is scheduled for 1/27/25. Katherine Riebe shared that Tosa Together Black History Month event is on 2/27/25 at 6:00 pm at the public library. Event theme is Labor.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

2. Guest speaker: Brady Steigauf, Focus on Energy [25-0024](#)

Brady Steigauf presented the FOE website with IRA and other energy efficiency project rebates and tax credits. The site link is on the Wauwatosa.net sustainability webpage under Resident and Business Resources. The committee will consider if the rebate calculator should be more directly promoted on the City's page. A link to the "Renters Resources" could be added to the Sustainability page.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

3. City Sustainability Manager position update [25-0025](#)

Interviews are next week - Rob will participate on behalf of the committee.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

4. Movie screening on January 12th [25-0026](#)

Zoe asked the team to share in their networks and neighborhoods on social media. Rob will help take composting. Zoe expressed how challenging a zero-waste event is to put on. She will use the trash/recycling as a demo of the Waste Wizard. <https://wauwatosa.librarycalendar.com/event/family-sustainability-movie-6717>. Committee discussed the need for promotion through the City's social media and webpage's.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

5. Committee comments on City comprehensive plan [25-0027](#)

Mike Arney drafted a response on behalf of the committee. After discussion over some grammar and wording, Mike motioned to approve, Steve seconded, unanimously approved.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

6. Wauwatosa School District updates [25-0028](#)

Net Zero Sub Committee - Heather shared that the kickoff meeting was earlier this week. The committee is forming and creating its charter and meeting schedule. She will bring updates and ask for guidance from the committee as things move forward. She also shared that an urban farming class at the middle schools has been approved. Outreach to school "green teams"- Jill McClellan shared that she is sending a survey out to contacts at each of the schools to find areas of interest and gain understanding of what each school is doing and where interest is focused.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

7. Annual report planning and schedule [25-0029](#)

Rob shared the proposed timeline of having a draft by mid-February with enough time for review and comments before the approval in our March 2025 meeting.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

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**8.** 2025 Goals [25-0030](#)

*The committee will discuss the 2025 goals in our February meeting. Meeting will be led by Zoe as Rob is traveling at that time.*

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

**9.** Updates to committee webpage [25-0031](#)

*Rob reminded the committee that the member roster on the meetings/committee webpage has been updated and asked each member to check that their information is correct.*

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.*