



Wauwatosa, WI

Community Affairs Committee

Meeting Agenda - Final-revised

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

7:00 PM

Council Chambers and Zoom:
<https://servetosa.zoom.us/j/82923188685>,
Meeting ID: 829 2318 8685

Regular Meeting

HYBRID MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the public may observe and participate in the meeting in-person or via Zoom at the link above. To access the Zoom meeting via phone, call 1-312-626-6799 and enter the Meeting ID.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ITEMS

1. Consideration of Common Council resolution proclaiming May 12, 2024 [24-0194](#)
World Migratory Bird Day in the City of Wauwatosa
2. Consideration of amendment to Sec. 2.29 of the Wauwatosa Municipal [24-0211](#)
Code relative to membership of the Sustainability Committee

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (414) 479-8917 or send an email to tclerk@wauwatosa.net, with as much advance notice as possible.

Resolution proclaiming May 12, 2024 as World Migratory Bird Day in the City of Wauwatosa

Whereas, migratory birds are some of the most beautiful and easily observed wildlife that share our communities, and

Whereas, many citizens recognize and welcome migratory songbirds as symbolic harbingers of spring, and

Whereas, these migrant species also play an important economic role in our community, controlling insect pests and generating million in recreational dollars statewide, and

Whereas, migratory birds and their habitats are declining throughout the Americas, facing a growing number of threats on their migration routes and in both their summer and winter homes, and

Whereas, public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation, and

Whereas, citizens enthusiastic about birds, informed about the threats they face, and empowered to help address those threats can directly contribute to maintaining healthy bird populations, and

Whereas, since 1993, World Migratory Bird Day (formerly international Migratory Bird Day) has become a primary vehicle for focusing public attention on the nearly 350 species that travel between nesting habitats in our communities and throughout North America and their wintering grounds in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the southern U.S., and

Whereas, hundreds of thousands of people will observe WMBD, gathering in town squares, community centers, schools, parks, nature centers, and wildlife refuges to learn about birds, take action to conserve them, and simply to have fun, and

Whereas, while WMBD officially is held each year on the second Saturday in May, its observance is not limited to a single day, and planners are encouraged to schedule activities on the dates best suited to the presence of both migrants and celebrants, and

Whereas, WMBD is not only a day to foster appreciation for wild birds and to celebrate and support migratory bird conservation, but also to call to action,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, we the Common Council of the City of Wauwatosa, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 12, 2024 as **World Migratory Bird Day** in the City of Wauwatosa, and does urge all citizens to celebrate this observance and to support efforts to protect and conserve migratory birds and their habitats in our community and the world at large.

Memo

To: Mayor Dennis McBride

From: Mike Arney, Chair, Wauwatosa Sustainability Committee

Re: Changes to Wauwatosa Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2.29, "SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE"

Background

The Wauwatosa Code of Ordinances, chapter 2.29.010, says the Wauwatosa Sustainability Committee shall consist of eight citizen members appointed by the mayor, one (voting) member of the common council, and an optional, non-voting staff liaison.

For the past several years, the Wauwatosa Sustainability Committee has been operating with ten citizen members (plus council member and liaison).

In the past several months:

- One member has resigned;
- One member's term expired 12/31/23 and they requested not to be re-appointed;
- One member's term expired 12/31/23, they expressed interest in being re-appointed, they were slow to provide the documents needed for re-appointment, and that re-appointment has not occurred; and
- One new member has been appointed.

So we are now at eight citizen members. We would like the option to have more than eight, to give more people the opportunity to exercise their talents for sustainability in the city. Several commissions have no upper bound to membership (Youth, Senior, Equity and Inclusion).

At the same time, in case of less interest in committee membership, allowing for lower membership seems prudent. The Commission for Persons with Disabilities requires between seven and eleven members.

Two other issues related to chapter 2.29:

- There is no provision for removing a committee member, in particular one who does not show up to meetings but has not formally resigned; and
- Chapter 2.29.040 calls for the committee to report to community affairs in the first quarter of each calendar year. In the past four years we have reported twice to government affairs and twice to financial affairs, several of those times in the second quarter.

Proposal

We propose the following changes to the size of the committee:

- In chapter 2.29.010, section A, strike the words, "comprised of nine individuals".
- In chapter 2.29.010, section A.1, to replace the word "Eight" with "Not fewer than seven nor more than eleven".

To clarify the procedure when a member leaves the committee, we propose:

- Replace chapter 2.29.020, section B, with “Terms shall expire at the end of each calendar year. If a member should leave the committee before the end of their term, the mayor may appoint a replacement to serve out the remainder of the term.”

For removal of members we had thought of something like this, but we do not want to imply other committees cannot remove their members. Perhaps staff can offer us some clarity around this issue of removing members from the committee:

- [withdrawn] “Committee members are expected to participate in the life of the committee. Members may step down from the committee at any time with written notice to the Mayor and committee chair. A member who has not attended meetings or otherwise participated in the life of the committee in a meaningful way during a six month period should be contacted by the committee chair. If the lack of participation continues, they may be removed from the committee by two-thirds vote.”

For reporting we propose:

- Amend section 2.29.040 to replace, “to the community affairs committee in the first quarter of each calendar year” with “to a standing committee designated by the city clerk in the first half of each calendar year.”

Resulting Chapter

2.29.010 Created.

- A. There is hereby created a committee to be known as the Wauwatosa Sustainability Committee, ~~comprised of nine individuals~~, to include:
1. ~~Eight~~ **Not fewer than seven nor more than eleven** citizen members, who shall be residents of Wauwatosa, to be selected at large by the mayor and subject to confirmation by majority vote of the common council, being selected so as to provide a broad range of expertise on energy, recycling or sustainability issues; and
 2. One member who shall be a member of the common council, appointed biannually by the mayor, to be a liaison and voting member of the committee;
- B. A city staff member may be appointed to serve as an ex officio (non-voting) member.

2.29.020 Appointment.

- A. Appointments to the committee by the mayor shall be for a term of three years.
- B. ~~Members shall serve staggered three year terms, with three terms expiring at the end of each calendar year.~~ **Terms shall expire at the end of each calendar year. If a member should leave the committee before the end of their term, the mayor may appoint a replacement to serve out the remainder of the term.**
- C. The members shall elect a chair, vice chair, and secretary for one-year terms at the beginning of each calendar year, after the start of new membership terms. The chair, vice chair and secretary may serve a maximum of two consecutive, one-year officer terms.

2.20.030 Mission.

The committee's mission shall be to champion environmentally sound practices fostering the city's long-term livability and economic vitality. The committee advises the common council and city staff on sustainability matters, and collaborates with residents, businesses and other partners to advance the city's environmental goals, including:

- A. Energy use practices that optimize financial, health and environmental benefits, including demand reduction, building and vehicle efficiency, and renewable energy options.
- B. Waste and material management practices that optimize financial, health and environmental benefits, including waste reduction, recycling, composting and other initiatives.
- C. Community outreach initiatives that help to educate residents and businesses on sustainability initiatives that enhance the quality of life in Wauwatosa.

2.29.040 Annual report.

The sustainability committee shall provide an annual update to the community affairs committee in the first quarter of each calendar year a standing committee designated by the city clerk in the first half of each calendar year.