



Wauwatosa, WI

Sustainability Committee

Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

6:30 PM

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

Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting called to order at 6:31 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present 11

- Member, Chair Rob Zimmerman
- Member Michael Arney
- Member Heather Deaton
- Member Seth Flanders
- Member Zoe Hastert
- Member John Horkey
- Member Jill McClellan
- Member Steven Ostrenga
- Member Katherine Riebe
- Member Ian Schmitt-Ernst
- Aldersperson Liaison Melissa Dolan

NEW BUSINESS

1. Announcements and upcoming activities/events [26-0037](#)

-Mr. Ostrenga shared that Renew Wisconsin has a conference on Feb 5, 2026 and is hosting a gubernatorial candidate fundraiser event on Feb 4, 2026.

-Ms. McClellan shared that there is a free MLK Day event at the Marcus Center titled "What Are You Doing For Somebody Else?"

-Mr. Schmitt-Ernst shared that Main Street Alliance is hosting a gubernatorial candidate cand forum on Wed, Jan 21, 2026 at The Cooperage with free registration .

-Ms. Dolan will be running for new District 11 position and might not be our alder liaison moving forward.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

2. Appointment of WSC leadership positions in 2026 [26-0038](#)

Mr. Zimmerman - Chair

Mr. Schmitt-Ernst - Vice Chair

Ms. Deaton - Secretary

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

3. City Sustainability Manager update [26-0036](#)
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Ms. Conway presented her report that was part of the meeting packet.

Conversation highlights include:

-Ms. Conway asked for help with writing a grant with Compost Crusaders for funding of food waste drop off at the city collection center. Mr. Flanders will be part of the review group. WSC will be part of the promotion of the program.

-Ms. Conway is working with Ashlyn on content highlighting the City's sustainability goals and progress. Mr. Zimmerman suggested adding cost savings, Ms. Hastert suggested including return on investment. Overall comments were in appreciation. This will be put into the shared drive/google doc for future drafts and review.

-Ms. McClellan inquired about charging for landfill pickup, this is not currently on the plans for the city.

-There is currently a Small Business Forgivable Loan Program that Ms. Conway has proposed adding a sustainability section to it. Mr. Carroll asked for more background on the program; Ms. Conway clarified that this is an idea she has just proposed to the program organizers; Ms. Dolan gave some explanation of the process.

-The City is working on a building redesign for City Hall and Library. Mr. Horky and Mr. Zimmerman gave accolades to a person named Tait who is likely to be involved.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

4. Wauwatosa School District updates [26-0039](#)

-Ms. McClellan will be contacting green teams at three schools before our next meeting. Ms. Deaton suggested contacting Tosa East Environmental Club, Mr. Riebe suggested Tosa West and school PTAs. She will also connect with Mary Young for contacts. She will also include Alder.

-Ms. Deaton shared that E2S2 subcommittee will be presenting an update to the school board in an educational session related to solar and energy efficiency. She thanked Mr. Ostrenga for the help with slides regarding solar options specifically.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

5. Outreach recap, plans for upcoming months [26-0040](#)

a. Kids movie, January 2026

b. Calendar for 2026

-Ms. Hastert is reaching out to the children's librarian to plan a date for a kids/family movie, targeting February.

-Ms. Deaton shared the event calendar she drafted for the committee to use to plan and target the engagement activities. She will add that to the shared drive and send it to the group.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

6. 2026 goal setting [26-0041](#)

High level goals had been previously drafted and will be prioritized for discussion in February's agenda.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

7. Annual report planning [26-0042](#)

Due to city council changes, there are only two dates to present (March and December). The targeted presentation date is March 1. Mr. Zimmerman's suggestion is to make a presentation with a follow-up of a finalized formal report.

RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.