

City of Dubuque
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

GOVERNMENTAL BODY: Resilient Community Advisory Commission (RCAC)

DATE: September 2, 2021

TIME: 5:00 pm

LOCATION: Jule Operations and Training Center (JOTC) Circle Conference Room, 949 Kerper Blvd.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sara Booth, Dean Boles, Adam Hoffman, Lalith Jayawickrama, Robin Kennicker, Whitney Sanger, Craig Reber

MEMBERS ABSENT: Candace Eudaley-Loebach, Jake Kohlhaas

STAFF PRESENT: Gina Bell, Sustainable Community Coordinator

Vice-Chair Kennicker called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm. Bell confirmed the meeting was in compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

TEST AGENDA

OATH OF OFFICE: Commissioner Hoffman was sworn in by Vice-Chair Kennicker.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Commissioner Boles mentioned the Commission did not receive the minutes for August. Moved agenda item to next month's (October) meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: N/A

OLD BUSINESS

a) Climate Action Plan (CAP) Implementation – Reports by Commissioners

Commissioner Hoffman reported on tree canopy/green space – He is still waiting on emails from Parks staff and will share when he has the information.

Commissioner Boles shared that he and Commissioner Kohlhaas followed up with Alexis Steger, Director of Housing and Community Development, who clarified that it is City policy to not use Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) funding for homeowner solar installations, although the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department policy does allow it.

Staff updated Commission that Ben Pothoff, Housing Inspection Supervisor, pulled the data the commission requested, and staff will send to the commission to review before the October meeting.

Commissioners Kennicker asked if there was a timeline for the Engineering Department to implement the RCAC suggestions for signage on bike routes. Staff did not know but will follow up.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Discussion of Nested Model of Sustainability

See attachment of Commissioner Kohlhaas's submitted comments. Commissioner Boles asked if other sustainability offices are moving towards this model and staff shared that to her knowledge, cities are focused on human-centered, equitable climate action and less focused on sustainability/sustainability models. There was no appetite to form a subcommittee and Commissioner Boles motions to table for potential future discussion if needed. Booth seconds. Motion carries.

HOW DID I SHOW UP? COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Hoffman updated the RCAC on the sustainability/waste reduction position at UD – they have hired Josh

Chamberlain who will begin September 15th.

Commissioner Boles shared the Community Development Advisory Commission (CDAC) approved Chair Eudaley-Loebach's plan for major upgrades at Lincoln Elementary School starting with raised garden beds and food education. He found out that school playgrounds are open for public use after 4 pm and suggests the city promote this information on their website. He also shared the work session that Black Hills Energy gave to city council on August 16, 2021 was informative.

Commissioner Sanger shared that Project Rooted hired an employee, Emily Reisch who will begin soon and shared that 400 people have registered for the Rooted Table dinner.

NEXT MEETING: The next commission meeting will occur on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 5 pm at the Jule Operations and Training Center (JOTC) in the Circle Conference Room, 949 Kerper Blvd.

ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Minutes approved by: Candace Eudaley-Loebach
Candace Eudaley-Loebach, Commission Chair

Prepared by: Gina Bell
Gina Bell, Sustainable Community Coordinator