

City of Dubuque
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

GOVERNMENTAL BODY: Resilient Community Advisory Commission (RCAC)

DATE: May 5, 2022

TIME: 5:00 pm

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Boles, Josh Chamberland, Katharine Connolly, Adam Hoffman, Lalith Jayawickrama, Robin Kennicker, Jake Kohlhaas, Whitney Sanger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Craig Reber

STAFF PRESENT: Gina Bell

Chair Kohlhaas called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

TEST AGENDA

MINUTES APPROVAL: Minutes were not attached to the meeting invitation so approval will wait until June meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Paul Schultz – representing Green Dubuque. See attached remarks.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Sustainable Dubuque Grant Discussion:

Bell presented the idea of reserving two meetings for open house style for Sustainable Dubuque grantees to report on their work. Discussion on grant rules on written reports vs presentation-style reports. Commissioner Sanger offered to take photos and testimonials of grantees to show what the commission does. Commissioners agreed that spreading the word about the work being funded could entice others and promote the work. Additional ideas included:

- use at Sustainability Conference to promote all the great work happening in Dubuque
- have posterboards at the Farmers Market, at City Council chambers, the library, to gain exposure

It was requested to add to the report a summary of what the grantee proposed doing.

In summary,

- set aside time to verbally report to RCAC
- RCAC gathers promotion and photos
- Linking the application and report

Commissioner Sanger motions to keep the written report as is and RCAC will work to visit grantees in action and take photos to put on city's social media. Commissioner Chamberland seconds. Motion carries.

b) Goals and Priorities – RCAC worked to fill out the annual goals and priorities worksheet provided by the city.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Climate Action Plan Outreach Plan – Commissioner Kennicker motions to receive the document and file as presented. Chamberland seconds. After a short discussion related to how to better involve businesses in this work; and reminder to use the Community Development Advisory Commission's Citizen Participation Plan, motion carries.

b) Tipper Carts – Commissioner Chamberland motions to receive the document and file as presented.

Jayawickrama seconds. After a short discussion about how to make the tipper carts educational and a proposal to place large stickers with essential information to share on the carts, the motion carries. The RCAC saw no reason to respond to memo.

HOW DID I SHOW UP? COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Boles: CDAC – reiterated use of the Citizen Participation Plan. Also, he sent link to a U of I podcast – about clean water. In response to last month's data share about high school dropout rates and support services, he reported not finding much related to offerings nor current rates.

Chamberland: Donate Don't Dump – 4 colleges are participating in a move-out donation drive (Loras, UD, Clarke, Emmaus) and transferred donations off site to goodwill/ St. Vincent's. Donations included food, clothing, school supplies, small appliances, and textbooks. Platteville has started a city-wide swap (centrally located) in association with college move-out and he is interested in doing it Dubuque.

Kohlhaas: Valentine Garden is expanding, fence up, 19 gardeners. Honors group at Loras working on aquaponics with city.

Jayawickrama: asked about the City's pesticide-free parks program and is looking at waste in hospitals.

NEXT MEETING: The next commission meeting will occur on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at 5 pm at the Jule Operations and Training Center (JOTC) in the Circle Conference Room, 949 Kerper Blvd.

ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Minutes approved by: 
Jacob Kohlhaas, Commission Chair

Prepared by: 
Gina Bell, Sustainable Community Coordinator

ATTACHMENT