

City of Dubuque
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

GOVERNMENTAL BODY: Resilient Community Advisory Commission

DATE: February 1, 2018

TIME: 5:00 pm

LOCATION: Conference Room #1

City Hall Annex, 1300 Main St, Dubuque IA 52001

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean Boles, Sara Booth, Ben Darr, Steve Drahozal, Carrie Lohrmann, Robin Kennicker, Laura Roussell Leah Specht. Absent: Laura Roussell

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant City Manager Cori Burbach

President Specht called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Burbach confirmed that the meeting was in compliance with the Iowa Open Meeting Law.

MINUTE APPROVAL: Robin Kennicker motioned, and Steve Drahozal seconded, approval of the minutes from the January 4, 2018 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ELECTION OF RCAC CHAIR: Specht submitted her interest in serving another one-year term as the RCAC Chair. Kennicker motioned, and Drahozal seconded, to appoint Specht as Chair. The motion passed unanimously. Darr submitted his interest in serving as the Vice Chair. Kennicker motioned, and Lohrmann seconded, to appoint Darr as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL SUSTAINABLE DUBUQUE WORK SESSION: Burbach advised that the next quarterly Sustainable Dubuque work session should highlight the work the RCAC has done in their first year of existence. She polled dates that commissioners would be available, and will work with the City Manager to identify a meeting date. Work that the commissioners would like included in the presentation include their strategic planning, STAR analysis, DART and UNL climate change reports, the impact of the Sustainable Dubuque community grants, and the benefits of cross-representation on other commissions. Boles suggested we share any of the data from the STAR Leading Indicators subset that we have available at that meeting.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY REPORT: Burbach presented information on the work that City departments currently do to improve indoor air quality, as well as asthma data provided by the Dubuque Community School District. The commission discussed the data. They recommended that staff identify whether indoor air quality is a problem in Dubuque, and if it is, to focus on the problem with increased inspections. Boles motioned, and Kennicker seconded, to receive and file the information.

STAR COMMUNITY RATING & IMAGINE DUBUQUE: The Commission discussed how they would like to continue to use the STAR Community Rating to monitor Dubuque's progress towards sustainability goals. Boles shared information on the STAR Leading Indicators subset, and Burbach confirmed that staff will work on collecting the data for these indicators in preparation for the annual RCAC strategic planning session. Boles recommended that moving forward, one of the STAR goal areas should be discussed at each RCAC meeting. Burbach will connect commissioners with at least one staff expert ahead of the meeting so they can discuss data, and that staff person may be invited to the relevant RCAC meeting to answer questions from the full commission.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Darr shared information on an upcoming public forum on public broadband. Burbach will schedule a staff presentation on the City's broadband work for a future meeting.

Kennicker read a letter she shared with City Council regarding poverty rates and rental costs in Dubuque, which is attached to these meeting minutes for the record.

Lohrmann inquired about how the City allocates grant funds to the community. Burbach will share information at the next RCAC meeting about current grant practices.

Boles reported on his work on the Community Development Advisory Commission. He requested more information on the efficiency and effectiveness of organizations we grant funds to. Burbach will schedule this as an agenda topic several months from now.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday March 1, 2017, 5:00 PM at City Hall Annex.

ADJOURNMENT: Darr moved, and Kennicker seconded, to adjourn at 6:40 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes approved by: _____
Leah Specht, Commission Chair

Prepared by: _____
Cori Burbach, Assistant City Manager