



MINUTES

City of Ypsilanti SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING Virtual Meeting held via Zoom

Monday, April 12, 2021
7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:10 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Nancy Heine	Present	- Washtenaw County, Ypsilanti City
Julia Bayha	Present	- Washtenaw County, Ypsilanti City
Bryan Foley	Present	- Washtenaw County, Ypsilanti City
Takunia Collins	Present	- Washtenaw County, Pittsfield Township
Desirae Simmons	Present	- Washtenaw County, Ypsilanti City
Keith Michalowski	Absent	
Katy Greenwald	Absent	
Beth Gibbons	Absent	

Also Present: Council Liaison Steve Wilcoxon
Staff Liaison Ron Akers, Public Services Director
Commission Recording Secretary, Nancy Hare-Dickerson

Additional Staff Present: Bonnie Wessler, Public Services Project Manager (Zoom Meeting Host)

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – none

IV. AGENDA APPROVAL

Collins (Second: Foley) moved to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Commissioners Heine, Bayha, Foley, Collins, Simmons
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Michalowski, Greenwald, Gibbons
Motion Carried.

V. INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Heine asked presentation participants to identify themselves.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

1. U of M Resilience Hub Group

Desmond Kirwan, Trevor McCarty, Paige Porter and Grant Faber, graduate students at the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, provided a Power Point presentation as to their resilience hub work, addressing the following topics:

- Implementing resilience hubs in Ypsilanti, Michigan
- Climate change in southeast Michigan and emerging crises in the United States
- Communities banding together to become more resilient
- What goes into creating a resilience hub

- Criteria used to determine priority areas in Ypsilanti
- Information gathering through community surveys and resident interviews
- Resilience hub funding
- Recommendations based on report findings
- Possible vision for what the future of resilience for Ypsilanti could look like

Desmond Kirwan introduced a second Masters group of University of Michigan students who will be available to conduct research and further assist the Commission --- Bryce Frohlich, Jessica Miller and Taylor Antal. *[Commissioner query and comment followed]*

2. Adapt Card Deck Game

Co-creator Bridget O'Brien shared the vision of the game's creators and provided a Power Point presentation explaining what the "Adapt Creative Process Game" is all about and how its use could possibly support the work of the Commission. There was discussion as to how it possibly might be worked out to hold a future outdoor commission meeting, sometime in the summer, in order to play the game. *[Further commissioner query and comment followed]*

3. Composting with Commissioner Collins

Commissioner Collins discussed teaching children, as well as senior citizens, how to properly compost and the importance of doing so. His plan is to do a follow up with a slide presentation at the next meeting.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of March 8, 2021 minutes

Simmons (Second: Collins) moved to approve the March 8, 2021 Minutes as submitted.

Roll Call Vote – Ayes: Commissioners Heine, Bayha, Foley, Collins, Simmons
Nays: None
Absent: Commissioners Michalowski, Greenwald, Gibbons
Motion Carried.

VIII. WORK SESSIONS – none

IX. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

1. Sustainability Goals: Water

[To be discussed with the larger group at the next meeting]

2. Water Testing Experiment Update

Commissioner Heine explained that the worksheet included in the packet is from the County Water Resources Department to provide information regarding individual water testing and cost.

3. Storm Drain Awareness Campaign Discussion

Commissioner Collins will present information at a future meeting.

4. Composting Pilot Program Update

Commissioner Collins will present information at the next meeting.

5. Neighborhood Hubs Pilot Program Update

Commissioner Simmons provided an update of her efforts and thoughts about next steps.

6. Earth Day 2021 Planning Updates

Commissioner Bayha provided a follow up on the missive she wrote explaining Earth Day and shared future planning thoughts.

7. Sustainability Commission KN95 Mask Event Update

Commissioner Heine shared that she handed over 3,000 masks that she was able to get, to Commissioner Foley. Commissioner Foley provided an update on his community distribution efforts and storage of the remaining. *[Commissioner query and comment followed]*

8. Commission Vacancy Update

Commissioners were encouraged to share commissioner vacancy information with others. *[Commissioner thoughts/ideas followed re: ways to promote the Sustainability Commission within the community]*

X. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners, who wished, shared additional thoughts/comments, and also shared activities they are involved with and/or are working on related to sustainability.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT – none

XII. PROPOSED BUSINESS

- Approval of February 8, 2021 meeting minutes.
- Commissioner Heine notated items for the next meeting.

XIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, May 10, 2021

XIV. ADJOURNMENT: 9:08 p.m.

Simmons (Second: Bayha) moved to adjourn the meeting of the Sustainability Commission.

Voice Vote: Unanimous

Motion: Carried