

Sustainable Marshfield Committee Minutes
June 27, 2006

The meeting of the Sustainable Marshfield Committee was called to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza, 720 S. Central Ave., Marshfield, WI 54449

Present: Mike Brehm, City Administrator; Keith Strey, Finance Director; Dan Umhoefer, citizen member; Carl Scott, VuePoint Architecture; Mike Meyers, Mayor; Ken Heiman, Weber's Farm Store; Mary Rentmeester, St. Vincent DePaul; David Leding, Marshfield DoorSystems; Jeni Lewis, Marshfield News Herald; Dan Knoeck, Director of Public Works; Ron Dickrell, Wastewater Utility; Marty Anderson, 4th Ward Alderman; Tom Turchi, City Engineer; Dan Helwig, Design Unlimited; Amber Miller, Director of Planning and Economic Development; Scott Boson, Boson Company; Steve Fuerlinger, Associated Bank; Mike Wolfgram, Marshfield Clinic; Sue Meyer, citizen; Kirk Langfoss, citizen/Marathon Co. CPZ; Joe Pacovsky, Marshfield Utilities; Steven Schulte, citizen/Foxfire Botanical Gardens; Sherri Gruder, UW – Extension; Peter Manley, Wood County Extension; Mary Kluz, Marathon County UW Extension; and Amy Krogman, Mayor's Office.

Mike Brehm welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for participating in this meeting. The committee members introduced themselves.

Mayor Meyers also thanked the participants. He told the committee that the Common Council directed him to put together this committee to do a study and make a recommendation back to the Council. The charge of the committee is to learn more about the concept; to see how this can be applied to the city, our businesses and to each member personally; and to report back to the Common Council with a summary of our findings and any recommendations that the Committee may have that will propel Marshfield into the future.

Peter Manley went over the ground rules and meeting schedule. It was suggested that the whole committee meet once a month. It is anticipated that the committee will be meeting for six months. There will be sub-committees that will be meeting more often. This committee is a city committee and has to meet the open meeting laws. Mike Brehm told the committee that this concept was brought up by Alderman Anderson to the Common Council. The Mayor from the City of Washburn gave a presentation to the council this spring. This committee will make a recommendation to the Common Council, but the final decision will be made by the Council.

Sherri Gruder gave a presentation to the Committee on what makes a sustainable community. Her PowerPoint presentation is attached to these minutes.

The committee began discussing what the key issues for a sustainable Marshfield. Some of the issues they came up with were:

- incentives, not mandates
- communication and education
- focus on term “sustainable” not “green”
- bring out costs so informed discussions can be made
- not only involve Marshfield, but entire region
- look at European and learn from what they have done
- health implications related to energy use
- position Marshfield to be in front of government regulations
- look at what we already do and build on our strengths
- building on public/private partnerships
- reuse of waste
- creative use of what we use
- redevelopment of existing sites
- wastewater and water quality
- benefit to Marshfield economic base
- short and long term vision
- utilize educational facilities

Mary Klutz asked the committee to complete this question and bring it to the next meeting:

The Marshfield eco-municipality exists to _____ for
_____ by _____ so that
_____.

At the next meeting, they will use this to develop the mission statement.

The next meeting date is July 25th from 3 – 5 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza.

Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Krogman

