

Plan Implementation Advisory Committee Minutes

7/26/21 | 9:00AM

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Ohren, Stone, Simmons, Seegert, Bukowski, Naud, Weinert, Naples

Members Absent: Williams

BPW Liaison: Smith

Public Present:

Staff Present: Eggermont, Garramone

Weinert called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Public Comment

None

Roll Call

Weinert is present and attending remotely from the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.

Simmons is present attending remotely from City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, MI.

Bukowski is present and attending remotely from the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI

Stone is present and attending remotely from the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.

Williams is not present.

Smith is present and attending remotely from Lachine, Alpena County, MI.

Naples is attending remotely from Austin, Travis County, TX.

Naud is present attending remotely from City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.

Ohren is present and attending remotely from City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.

Seegert is present and attending remotely from Salem Township, Washtenaw County, MI.

Stone joined at 9:05 am.

Approval of Agenda

Ohren noted the agenda does not indicate action on the sponsorship proposal, but if the committee decides to do so, we should indicate any conflicts of interest. Ohren requested to amend the agenda to add a conflict of interest disclosure at 7a.

Approval of agenda as amended moved by Simmons, seconded by Naud. All in favor.

Approval of 6/28/21 Minutes

Smith pointed out a typo of an extra r in WRRMA in updates section.

Approval of minutes as amended moved by Ohren, seconded by Bukowski. All in favor.

Reports and Updates

Eggermont updated the WRRMA cart tagging is going well. Approximately 2/3rds of the tags given out are due to plastic bags and film. He anticipates the process of adding the City of Ann Arbor to WRRMA will conclude around September or October. The board discussed plastic bags and film as a large issue in terms or risk to material recovery facilities, and that education and outreach are important moving

forward. The board requested a look at the final grant report including the educational pieces in place prior to the grant as well as what is recommended moving forward.

Eggermont also noted the County Clean-Up Day event in Augusta Township went well, GFL donated bulky waste collection to the event. Upcoming events include Saline and EMU.

Member Updates

Simmons announced he is officially retired from the City of Ypsilanti. He wondered if his appointment to the committee should change as it is currently a municipal appointment. Eggermont will review.

Weinert announced the equipment installer will be onsite this Friday at the RAA MRF. The MRF remains on schedule to begin full operations in November.

The education subcommittee heard a presentation from Mike Garfield about AMBR (Alliance of Mission Based Recyclers). The committee will evaluate Zero Waste Events and education in future meetings.

Old Business

Program Evaluation Recommendations

Ohren reviewed the Recommendations for action with the committee.

Home Toxics Center

Simmons expressed concern with the cost of running the Home Toxics Center, particularly as it grows. Eggermont is reviewing options to address this including extended producer responsibility for paint as a statewide initiative. The committee discussed how EPR can be incorporated into multiple of the County's programs. Naples wondered if the Drop Off Station may have a potential for a future home toxics collection site. Smith stressed the importance of safety precautions as more materials are collected.

School Recycling Program

Simmons noted that schools with a high capture of recyclables and lots of participation also have the highest costs. Ohren wondered how to incentivize schools with low participation. Weinert added school administrators should be recognized in addition to teachers and facilities staff.

Sponsorship

Smith emphasized the need for increased outreach, specifically in locations surrounding the City of Ann Arbor. Ohren noted the past two applications requested \$9,999 and wondered if the committee should change the amounts for medium and large sponsorships to \$5,001+ and to \$10,001+, respectively. Eggermont added that would need to be amended through the Board of Public Works.

Naud left at 9:54 a.m.

Waste Knot

Eggermont asked the committee if Public Works should put effort toward an Eastern Michigan Sustainable Business Forum, as a new initiative under the umbrella of Waste Knot. Stone noted that the success of the Western Michigan Sustainable Business Forum is business-driven, as the businesses are working together towards their goals, instead of it being just another obligation to fulfill.

Eggermont will send another draft for feedback prior to full approval and proposed cancelling the August meeting for a final report to review in September. Weinert wondered if the committee could choose two people for each program as a sounding board for ongoing input.

New Business

Sponsorship Application – RAA Eco-Park

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Weinert, as an employee of RAA and committee member, will step out of the meeting during the discussion and any action on the application.

Eco-Park Presentation

Weinert presented on the RAA Eco-Park sponsorship application. The Eco-Park is a 17-acre property RAA has purchased in Scio Township to create a public space for zero waste activities to serve the community and region. Recycle Ann Arbor is hiring Resource Recycling Systems and Nothing Left to Waste as consultants to evaluate the needs of the community and the first steps to take for the site. The evaluation will take about six months. Some of the projects on site may be operated by Recycle Ann Arbor, but others could be operated by local partners.

Weinert left at 10:29 a.m. for the committee to review the proposal.

Motion to approve the resolution for funding the RAA Eco-Park sponsorship application for \$9,999 moved by Ohren, seconded by Simmons.

Naples noted she has noted with Nothing Left to Waste previously and is in support of the application. Bukowski emphasized that this application has done well to plan the evaluation process in advance. Eggermont noted PIAC can view the report upon completion of the evaluation.

Roll call vote: Yes (6). Motion carries.

Next Steps

Eggermont will review the potential for Simmons continued participation in the Committee as a member of the public due to his retirement from the City of Ypsilanti.

Motion to cancel the August meeting moved by Ohren, supported by Bukowski. Motion passes.

Public Comment

None

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am. moved by Ohren, seconded by Bukowski. All in favor.

Minutes prepared by Isabella Garramone

Minutes approved by *Nancy V. Stone*
Nancy V. Stone (Sep 27, 2021 15:20 EDT)

Nancy Stone, Secretary






7.26.21 PIAC.Minutes.ForSigning

Final Audit Report

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