

Sustainability & Energy Commission Minutes 12/12/24

A regular meeting of the Sustainability & Energy Commission (SEC) was called to order by Dan Small at 6:07 on Thursday, December 12, 2024, in the Woodbine Room at Central Park Place.

Present: Pam Blough, James Hagen, Jean Madden, Jim Mathews, Patti Nelsen, Nancy O'Neill, Dan Small

Absent: Ryan Cotton, Brittany Goode, John Kinch, Andrei Skelly

Also present: Eric Law (Administrative Liaison)

1. Call to audience. Larry Burns was present. No public comment.
2. Previous Meeting Minutes unanimously approved.

AGENDA

1. Forest Management Update: Jean Madden. Madden reports that a test aerial drone flyover occurred on Nov. 9th. It flew over Duncan Park, Mulligan's Hollow and Lake Forest Cemetery. Simultaneously, there was a street count of the deer conducted by Berg's pest control. A second drone flight is scheduled in January to optimize the speed and height of the drone. Once a deer count estimate has been established, a work session with the City Council will be requested. Small made a motion that "the SEC recommends that the Grand Haven City Council schedule a work session to review the data collected from deer counts within city limits." Unanimous vote to approve. Larry Burns reports that the City of Grand Haven completed spot treatments for Hemlock Woolly Adelaide (HWA) in Mulligan's Hollow, Duncan Park and Lake Forest Cemetery. Also, the Rotary Club of Grand Haven contributed \$2000 towards treatment of diseased trees (HWA and Beech Scale) in the public areas of Highland Park (about 12 acres).
2. Energy Task Force Update: Update tabled due to absence of Kinch and Goode.
3. Berkley National Lab Report on residential solar installation: James Hagen. The report describes income, demographic, and other socio-economic trends among US residential rooftop solar adopters. The national average income for solar adopters is \$115,000. 49% of solar adopters had less than average income for the area they lived in.
4. Strategic Planning: Group discussion about what a strategy planning session should entail. Energy efficiency, water conservation and forestry management are high priorities for sustainability in Grand Haven. Discussion about how the City's current zoning ordinances may impact sustainability aspirations.

Sustainability and Energy Commission members are asked to bring their ideas for a strategy planning session next month.

Final Call to the Audience: Burns commented that he is impressed with how SEC members are able to work through differences of opinion constructively.

Small motioned to adjourn at 7:44. Madden supported. Unanimous approval.