

TO: GreenStep Committee Members

FROM: Jason Ludwigson, Sustainability Coordinator

DATE: February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 4:30 PM

RE: City Hall

#### AGENDA

1. Consideration of meeting minutes – November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 – see attached
  2. New member(s) recruitment
  3. Utility franchise fee discussion – materials attached
  4. 2024 Work Plan GreenSteps committee (Development Process and Engagement for La Crescent Climate Action Plan, Utility Franchise Fee, etc)
  5. Discussion of Xcel RDF Plant and Hilltopper Tours
  6. Improving recycling rates/success in city parks – review sample labels
  7. Project updates –
    - Solar PV updates Ice Arena, Pool, Wieser Park Shelter, and Pine Creek Golf Course
    - [CPL Grants](#) – Pine Creek
    - ReLeaf Grant MN DNR
    - Siberian Elm, Buckthorn and Round Leaf Bittersweet Removal
    - Carbon Reduction Program Electric Vehicle
    - WinLac updates – Urban Stormwater Practices – WinLac Rain Garden McIntosh (Future project ideas), Stormwater Art/Murals (Source Water Protection Plan Implementation Grant) and Projects and Practices BWSR Grant New Street Sweeper
    - VW funds EV chargers – MPCA and ZEF energy
    - Map the Experience Eagles Bluff Park Signs
    - Tree Ordinance
    - New Thermostats City Hall and Fire Station
    - February 24<sup>th</sup> Dry Bluff Prairie Work Day
  8. 2024 MnDOT Landscape Partnership Project
  9. Other items
  10. Adjournment. Please call me at 507-313-9633, or e-mail me at [jludwigson@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov](mailto:jludwigson@cityoflacrescent-mn.gov), if you will not be able to attend, have questions, or need more information. Thank you
- cc. Natural Resources Advisory Committee

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Jason Ludwigson, Sustainability Coordinator

DATE: November 6th, 4:30 p.m.

RE: Meeting Minutes November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 4:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Jason Ludwigson, Teresa O'Donnell, Jim Nissen, Bob Spencer, Michael Alfieri, and Tyler Benish

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Waller and Jeremy Wise

## Minutes

1. The committee discussed new member(s) recruitment.
2. Project updates were provided on the following: Solar PV updates Ice Arena, Pool, Wieser Park Shelter, and Pine Creek Golf Course, [CPL Grants](#) – Pine Creek, ReLeaf Community Forestry and Shade Tree Bonding Grants MnDNR, MnDOT Landscape Planting and 1<sup>st</sup> Street Boulevard, Carbon Reduction Program Electric Vehicle(s) – Council Update, WinLac updates – Urban Stormwater Practices – WinLac Rain Garden McIntosh, Stormwater Art/Murals with the Source Water Protection Plan Implementation Grant and Projects and Practices BWSR Grant New Street Sweeper, VW funds EV chargers – MPCA and ZEF energy, Map the Experience Eagles Bluff Park signs, and the Framework for La Crescent's Climate Action Plan. It was suggested by committee members that the Framework for La Crescent's Climate Action Plan include draft wording.
3. The committee discussed the ideas for to promote cleaner and quieter lawn/landscape equipment. The particular focus was on gas powered leaf blowers and trimmers. The committee reviewed data that shows these gas-powered lawn/landscape tools emit pollutants equal to driving hundreds of miles in a gas-powered car. The committee reviewed how other cities approach to this topic. The committee will continue to discuss at future meetings.
4. The committee took not action on a 2023 work plan.
5. Jason Ludwigson reviewed the Home Energy Squad Visits from September 2023. Only one visit was completed. The committee discussed ideas for more effectively sharing information about opportunities like Home Energy Squad Visits with community residents.
7. Jason Ludwigson presented information on the efforts to partner with Hilltopper Recycling, Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Area, and the MPCA to conduct a Waste Diversion Case Study during the construction of a new residential or commercial property. Efforts will continue on this project.
8. The committee reviewed sustainable building policy second review. Redline comments will be provided for further reviewing and editing.
9. The committee discussed the ideas for Improving recycling rates/success in city parks. Discission centered around the purchase more informative labels for each of the existing bins. Purchase and install of these labels will be reviewed by Tyler and Jason.

10. Jason Ludwigson provided an overview of the MN Tree Steward Training Program held on October 14<sup>th</sup> 2023. New residents attended the training and the existing Tree Steward volunteers are working to prune Oak trees over the November-March time period.

11. Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m. by consensus.

cc. Natural Resources Advisory Committee