



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

CITY-COUNTY TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

Ald. Nik Kovac, Chair

August Ball, Pam Fendt, Linda Frank, Julie Kerssick, Ted Kraig, George Martin, Janet Meissner Pritchard, Pamela Ritger, Erick Shambarger, and Rafael Smith

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Wednesday, January 6, 2021

2:30 PM

Virtual

Please join by computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/478831301>

Or join by phone: (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 478-831-301

1. Roll call.

Meeting convened: 2:31 P.M.

Members present: Nick Kovac, Julie Kerssick, Linda Frank, Pamela Ritger, Erick Shambarger, Pam Fendt, Rafael Smith, George Martin Janet Meissner Pritchard and Ted Kraig

Members excused: August Ball (who will be replaced as a member due to her busy schedule)

2. Review and approval of the minutes of December 16th.

*Linda Frank noted that under item #3, the 2nd paragraph, the file number should be 920828 and in the same paragraph food waste (no comma between food and waste)
Pam Fendt moved to approve as amended. No objections.*

3. Updates from the Work Groups and discussion related to membership and administration of them.

Mr. Shambarger did contact the folks who said they were interested in serving on the various work groups.

Each work group can decide how many individuals from the same organization can serve on the work group. Ms. Pritchard doesn't see a need to limit individuals who wish to serve, although more members does add more work for the chair in terms of organizing meetings. M-WERC is also doing some of the same work and the question became adding those individuals as members or having them do parallel work. Mr. Shambarger's recommendation was to add members of the Workforce Accelerator to the Jobs and Equity Work Group. Mr. Wiggins noted that some individuals signed up

for multiple work groups and Mr. Shambarger has been contacting these individuals as time permits.

Work Group membership as approved by the Task Force:

Jobs and Equity Work Group add Richard Diaz, Ken Blaeske, Jacquin Davidson, Bernadette Karanja, Julie Cayo, Ted Wolinski, David Polk, and Deneine Powell. 16 total members at this point in time. There are a number of individuals who also signed up online as being interested in serving. The work group will contact these individuals. Ms. Pritchard moved to add these members and there were no objections.

Education and Outreach add Dynasty Caesar, Stephanie Mercado, Richard Diaz, Bruce Wiggins, Shannon Sloan Spice. 13 total members. Ms. Ritger moved to add these members. There were no objections.

Green Buildings add Elizabeth Hitman, Larry Kilmer, Michael Olen, Dan Kaukman and Mariela Paz. Ms. Ritger moved to add these members and there were no objections.

Greening the Grid add Andrew Holstrum, Mariela Paz and Steve Hinkins and delete Janet Pritchard. Moved by Mr. Shambarger to add the members and Ms. Pritchard moved to remove herself. There were no objections.

Finance add Jennie Abel and Nick Sinram. Ms. Pritchard moved to add these members and there were no objections.

Transportation and Mobility add James Davies, Michael Anderson, Mike Amsden, Matt Donath and Dennis Grzezinski. Mr. Gordie Bennett has reached out to MCTS, but he hasn't gotten a response yet; he would ask that someone from the task force reach out MCTS (Ald. Kovac will do this). Ald. Kovac will reach out to bicycle and pedestrian advocates. Ald. Kovac will also reach out to SEWRPC as he is on that committee. Mr. Kraig moved to add these members and there were no objections.

Waste and Sustainable Consumption add Chelsea Malcara, Erin Keleske and Steven Keith. Ms. Pritchard moved to add these members and there were no objections. This group is looking for additional members. Mr. Shambarger is trying to get Samantha Longshore or Rick Meyers to serve on this work group. Mr. Wiggins will contact Compost Crusaders and Potawatomi once Ald. Kovac provides him with a contact name.

Land Use and Reform add Dynasty Caesar, Shannon Sloan Spice, David Weingrod, Monica Wauk Smith and Kelly Moore Brands. Ms. Frank moved to add these members and there were no objections. Ald. Kovac will contact the Forestry section about having someone from that area serve on this work group.

Adaptation and Climate Resilience add Aneysha Bhat, Andrew Bochman and Jamie Ferschinger. Mr. Shambarger will try to recruit some Health Dept. employees. Ms. Ritger moved to add these members and there were no objections. Ms. Vogt enquired why this was being done as MMSD already did a Resiliency Plan, but members saw this as providing more details. Ms. Vogt is not interested in serving on this work group.

Implementation Accountability and Reporting add Aneysha Bhat and Dineine Powell. Ms. Kerksick moved to add these members and there were no objections.

Mr. Shambarger is maintaining the list of all work group members. Various members of the Task Force will be contacting private and government agencies to solicit individuals to serve on specific work groups. Mr. Bruce Wiggins noted that one of the issues is that there is overlap, not only of the people, but also between various work groups. Ms. Pritchard suggested there some discussion on the steps the work groups should be doing at their first few meetings, such as scope of the group, deadlines, etc. There are individuals who want to serve on multiple committees. She would like to set target dates for certain outputs from each work group as well as an e-mail to instructions to chairs on how to run the work groups as well as minutes vs. a recording of the meetings and public participation.

Ms. Frank noted that the original intent was to start work groups on a time line rather than all 10 at the same time, but the time line doesn't seem to reflect that work groups will be starting at different times. Mr. Shambarger would like to have all 10 work groups, except for the Implementation Work Group, to begin now. Mr. Shambarger is also willing to send out some templates for the work groups to use and he is proposing that by March the work groups should have ideas to present and the Task Force should be able to decide on what the big initiative will be.

Ms. Ritger asked what the Task Force was going to do with the state climate recommendations? Accept them? Tailor them to Milwaukee?

Ms. Fendt thinks any overlap will get hashed out at the Task Force level and it will be okay if there is some overlap.

Rep. Moore Omokunde noted that he is on energy committee and the transportation committees so that will tie into this work.

4. Update from the Legislative Reference Bureau on the legality of new municipal fees.

Mr. Knapp said that his memo is in file 191923. The memo notes that taxes are not allowed except permitted by the state, but fees are and the difference is decided by intent - if the intent is to raise revenue, then it would not be allowed. It would be allowed if it was created under the "police power" of the city addressing the health and wellness of the city and can only cover the cost, not generate revenue. Ms. Pritchard would like to get the materials he used in generating the memo so the finance work group could review those. Rep. Moore Omokunde saw the need for a tax rather than a fee, but that must be approved at the state level. Mr. Shambarger said that a state-wide solution to this would be the ultimate goal; he thought the Finance Committee would hopefully recommend one large revenue source.

5. Set next meeting agenda.

WE Energies MOU update

Template for the work groups.

Discussion of the state task force report.

Discussion on the federal stimulus bill funding.

Possible media release to invite the public and its involvement or summarize where the Task Force is at.

The grant money to do the outreach was deferred, so those funds are not available, per Mr. Shambarger.

Who will be doing any fundraising or applying for grants? Ms. Pritchard thinks the Finance Committee should begin working on this in terms of short-term financing (for approximately 18 months).

Meeting adjourned: 4:30 P.M.

Linda M. Elmer
Staff Assistant

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Communication relating to the final report and activities of the City-County Task Force on Climate and Economic Equity.

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