



# City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
53202

## Meeting Minutes

### CITY-COUNTY TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

*Ald. Nik Kovac and  
Sup. Marcelia Nicholson, Co-Chairs*

*Pam Fendt, Linda Frank, Julie Kerkisick, Ted Kraig, Janet  
Meissner Pritchard, Supreme Moore Omokunde, Pamela  
Ritger, Erick Shambarger, Rafael Smith, and Freida Webb*

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*Google documents for this body can be found at :  
<http://bit.ly/CCTFCEE>*

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Monday, June 21, 2021

3:00 PM

Virtual

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#### Waste and Sustainable Consumption Work Group

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83963654737>

Meeting ID: 839 6365 4737

One tap mobile +19292056099,,83963654737#

#### 1. Roll call, Introductions & Check in

*CoChair Wiggins called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM. Attendees included CoChairs Janet Pritchard and Bruce Wiggins, members Kurt Baehman, Rob Zimmerman, Samantha Longshore, and Erin Keleske; guests Damien DeBuhr, Deputy Director of Programs at Groundwork Milwaukee, Jennifer Evans, Susan Bence, and citizen Amy \_\_\_\_\_. A quorum was present.*

#### 2. Review Agenda

**Clarify key goals and outputs desired for this meeting**

*Wiggins noted the goal for the meeting is to discuss and refine our big idea.*

#### 3. Review and approve minutes for June 1 meeting

*Approval of 3/29, 5/24, and 6/7 Meeting Minutes. Keleske moved to approve. With no modifications or corrections, the minutes were approved as written.*

#### 4. Update on Public Outreach & Education plans for CCTFCEE

*Wiggins encouraged all to attend the public event June 24. An excellent group of*

*speakers has been lined up to cover topics including climate vulnerability, the Task Force's work, and how the public can get involved. Keleske reported 132 people have signed up. Social Pinpoint will be a tool for us to get feedback from the public.*

*Evans reported that public meetings or events will be planned for the summer to focus on specific Work Group ideas and public engagement. Two types are being considered: Zoom presentations and larger in-person gathering. Our Work Group event might be combined with the Land Use, Urban Agriculture, and Reforestation Work Group. It might be a public event at a community garden or park. A representative from our Group would work with representatives from the Outreach and Education Work Group. Longshore volunteered! Baehman expressed interest but his time will be limited. Keleske will help as much as she can considering her last day of employment at the City is July 30.*

## **5. Discussion and agreement of Next Steps to progress work over the summer**

### *Next Steps and Refining the Big Idea*

*Debuhr said he attended at Melissa Tashjian's urging because Groundwork MKE is working to obtain a property in the 30th St. Corridor near Center St. for a potential compost facility. The compost could help community gardens. Groundwork is pursuing an EPA Environmental Justice small grant to organize a collaborative group to study feasibility, come up with a plan for neighborhood engagement, education about soil and lead abatement, get DNR approval, etc. This part of the city has issues with illegal dumping that would need to be addressed.*

*The Work Group decided to formalize the name of our big idea to "Milwaukee Food Waste Initiative." And approved this wording for the short description:  
"Milwaukee's Food Waste Initiative would seek to reduce food waste sent to landfill by first eliminating waste before it's created, also getting food to hungry people, and composting."  
We will need to develop the longer description including details about projects, costs, and implications related to greenhouse gas reductions and equity.*

*Summer work should focus around developing specific plans or projects with costs. We need to flesh out the composting part of the idea. We might hire a consultant if we can avoid a long RFP process -- Erick knows more about how to do this. We might devise a survey to get input on ideas, projects or initiatives Bruce will contact ICLEI, which may have some information from other cities on what has worked to reduce organic waste going to landfills. Bruce, Janet, and Sam will talk about how best to move forward.*

*We will want to involve other people and organizations in the Fall. Other Groups to involve or consult: Glean MKE, various food banks and pantries, the national organization that Melissa is a board member of (name = ?), Milwaukee Food Council + others.*

*Questions to be addressed over the Summer and Fall include the following:  
What pilot projects should be proposed for the next City budget? We should recognize that projects will likely rely on grants, many of which require local match. Pilot projects might be set up with the goal of aiming for specific grants.  
How can pilot projects provide information to further develop the idea? Pilot projects*

*can also be research.*

*What will be the GHG reductions per dollar allocated?*

*Can we obtain good waste data from the commercial sector? (ICLEI's report estimated this data.) Could we just go backwards and focus on what is being diverted, assuming it otherwise would have gone into the landfill. We have an estimated baseline (although definitely imperfect) and our time and effort might better be spent focusing on the reduction itself. Waste audits and volume tracking can be part of the education and pilot projects to be done.*

**6. Agree meetings to resume in September 2021.**

*The Work Group will continue meeting monthly in the Fall, on Mondays 3-4:30 starting Sept. 13. We need to involve new people, e.g., County representation, food banks and pantries, Hunger Task Force, Feeding America, Glean MKE. Amy has a lot of ideas and Bruce will follow up.*

**7. Adjourn**

*Wiggins adjourned the Meeting 4:36 PM*