

Washtenaw County Environmental Council

Tuesday, October 24
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
Remote Meeting via Zoom

Join by Zoom: <https://zoom.us/join>
Join by phone: 1-312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 873 0013 5225
Passcode: 709275

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. September 26, 2023
5. Citizen Participation: (up to 4 minutes per speaker)
 - a. Council Responses to Citizen Participation
6. Special Presentations
7. Regular Business
8. New Business
 - a. Budget Recommendations Update
 - i. Staff
 - b. Resolution to establish an Advisory and Recommendations Committee
 - c. Climate Action Plan Update
 - i. Jason Fee, Facilities Management Director
 - d. Meeting Calendar
 - i. Discussion: Chair Deatrick recommends canceling the December 26th, 2023 Meeting
 - ii. From the Chair: Notification of November Meeting Agenda
 1. We will consider a proposed Meeting Schedule for Jan-June 2024
 2. We have requested a presentation on stormwater and more by Water Resource Commissioner Evan Pratt

9. Communications and Reports

A. Councilmembers

B. Staff

C. Committees and Committee Reports

a. Committees and Committee Reports

i. Standing Committees

1. None

ii. Special/ Ad-Hoc Committees

1. Funding Committee - Kris Olsson

2. Outreach Committee – Avni Rao

10. Adjourn

Next meeting:

November 21, 2023

5:00 PM

Remote through Zoom

Washtenaw County Environmental Council

October 24, 2023

DRAFT PROPOSAL prepared by Michelle Deatrick

***Resolution Establishing the Advisory and Recommendations Committee of
The Washtenaw County Environmental Council***

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2018, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners (“BOC”) established the Washtenaw County Environmental Council (“WCEC” or “Council”); and

WHEREAS, the Council was tasked with “developing recommendations for environmental policy and organizational recommendations for Washtenaw County government in order to: achieve net-zero emissions for County operations, reduce county contributions to climate change; protect the County’s air, land, water, food network, and both mental and public health as related to the environment; and prioritize environmental justice, and intergenerational justice related to the environment”; and

WHEREAS, the WCEC’s Bylaws specify that the Council is charged to “Act in an advisory capacity, without regulatory or legislative authority, to County departments, committees, and the Board of Commissioners on environmental issues” as well as to work “collaboratively with other commissions, boards, councils and committees”; and

WHEREAS, the WCEC’s Bylaws also specify that the Council is charged with creating Council committees to help conduct the work of the Council;

THEREFORE, the Council confirms the creation of a standing subcommittee, to be called the “Advisory and Recommendations Committee” (“Committee”), which will act in a solely advisory capacity to the Chair of the WCEC and the WCEC; and

THEREFORE, the Advisory and Recommendations Committee is comprised of at least two (2) members and no more than four (4) members of the WCEC, to be appointed by the Chairperson, those members to serve until the election of new Council Chair and until appointment of their replacements; and the WCEC Chair serves as an ex-officio member; and

THEREFORE, the Chair may remove Committee members who miss two or more consecutive meetings of the Committee without reasonable excuse; and

THEREFORE, the Advisory and Recommendations Committee is tasked with following up on Council meetings and communications at the direction of the Council Chair, including but not limited to public comment, written comment, and presentations, in order to create draft recommendations to the Council and to County government including departments, committees and the BOC on environmental matters; and

THEREFORE, the Advisory and Recommendations Committee will submit all draft advisories and recommendations to the full Council for discussion, amendment, and consideration of approval by the Council, and will not communicate those draft advisories and recommendations externally, which is the purview of the full Council alone.

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MINUTES

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance

Present: Anne Brown, Andrew Comai, Michelle Deatrick, Gay MacGregor, Kris Olsson, Yousef Rabhi, Avni Rao, Liz Ratzloff, Annie Somerville, Theresa Tupacz, Bengamin VanGessel, Hudson Villeneuve

Absent: Ruby Horton, Tim Redmond, Katie Scott

3. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Moved by: Theresa
 - b. Seconded by: Gay
 - c. Approved unanimously
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes (5 Minutes)
 - a. August 22, 2023
 - i. Moved by: Avni
 - ii. Seconded by: Kris
 - iii. Approved unanimously
 - b.
 - c. July 7, 2023
 - i. Moved by: Avni
 - ii. Seconded by: Kris
 - iii. Approved unanimously
5. Citizen Participation: (up to 4 minutes per speaker)
 - a. Alex Thomas, West Willow
 - i. Requests that a government entity look into a process to clean up the Willow Run bomber plant and the pollutants in the ground.
 - ii. <https://whatsleftypsi.com/2019/a-tale-of-two-towns/>

6. Council Responses to Citizen Participation

a. Questions asked:

- i. What would you like to do with the space after clean up?
- ii. Is the State or the EPA involved in this?
- iii. Council members thanked Mr. Thomas for bringing this to their attention.

7. Special Presentations

a. Solid Waste Ordinance Revisions, Theo Eggermont, County Staff, presented.

i. Questions Asked by Council members:

1. TT: How does the county interface with the cities and townships? How do these regulations impact townships and cities?
2. BVG: Are there other policy measures that would increase recycling?
3. MD: What is the situation with the landfill? How can we reduce plastic use?
4. Single stream cart costs?
 - a. <https://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/2022/08/grand-rapids-85-million-biodigester-expected-to-cut-costs-raise-revenue.html>
5. AB: MSU is doing research on anerobic digester. Might be a good option for a presentation.

8. Regular Business

9. New Business

a. Climate Action Plan Update

- i. City of Ann Arbor Bryant Community Geothermal Grant
- ii. SEMCOG Community Climate Action Planning
- iii. Grant Manager Position, Board gave final approval
- iv. Resiliency Office Positions presented to the board on October 6th
 1. Share administrators' recommendation when the board packet is published

10. Communications and Reports

A. Councilmembers - None

B. Staff – None

C. Committees and Committee Reports

a. Committees and Committee Reports

- i. Standing Committees
 1. None
- ii. Special/ Ad-Hoc Committees
 1. Funding Committee - Kris Olsson

2. Outreach Committee – Avni Rao
- iii. New Committee Proposal
 1. Planning and Recommendation Committee. Action on this proposed Committee was postponed to the October meeting.

11. Adjourn

- a. Moved by: Avni
- b. Seconded by: Liz
- c. Approved unanimously

Next meeting:
October 24, 2023
5:00 PM
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