

Commission on Sustainability



MICHIGAN CITY INDIANA

Thursday, May 12, 2022, 5:30 pm
City Hall, Community Room Downstairs
Agenda

Michigan City Sustainability Commissioners: Tim Bauer, Laura Henderson (Secretary), Clarence Hulse, Andie Jahnz-Davis (Assistant Chair), Phillip Kohler, Daisy Lee (Treasurer), Nancy Moldenhauer (Chair), Faye Moore, La'Tonya Troutman
Student Commissioners: Tristan Bogart, Bailey Chavis, Mary Cate Neary, Angela Reynolds
City Council Liaison: Bryant Dabney

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of April 14, 2022 Minutes
- III. Reappointment of Commissioner by Sustainability Commission: Faye Moore
- IV. Project Teams
 - A. **Solar Power Options for City Government**—Tristan Bogart [solar panel array update; to introduce plan for city buildings as part of American Rescue Act Funding granted to municipal government; received response from Aaron Borngraber, Assistant Planning Director, on how to identify department ownership of properties]
 - B. **Funeral Homes & Crematoriums with Plant a Tree Opportunity:** Bailey Chavis [follow up with Greisen-Carlisle headquartered in Crown Point; post to share final list on social media as "Caught YOU Being Green" feature]
 - C. **Creating a Bicycling Culture**—Phillip Kohler & Tim Bauer [ride along the new Singing Sands Trail to be scheduled in the fall with definite MC Park & Recreation Department and hopeful Bike Stop partnership; determine date, time, beginning and destination]
 - D. **Response on Expression of Interest Submission:** Daniel Poynter, Executive Director of Carbon Neutral Indiana, emailed that we were not invited to apply for a \$1 MILLION grant to accelerate the implementation of a city climate/sustainability action plan while addressing inequality. He signed up to receive future funding opportunities from ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability USA, Inc. (ICLEI USA).
 - E. **Solar United Neighbors (SUN)**—Faye Moore & Nancy Moldenhauer [Round Two of cooperative membership ended on February 28th and now signing contracts has closed. Had 61 interested individuals signed up in the FREE cooperative. Seventeen (17) are in Michigan City. Satellite review and solar energy systems installer visit completed on 30. Site visit scheduled for 1. Proposal submitted to 9. Six (6) disqualified by installer. Opportunity lost on 6. Signed contract with 8. Cancelled contract of 1. Plans in the making for Round 3.]
<https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/indiana/> ; <https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/indiana/go-solar/>
 - F. **Continue Promoting SolSmart Silver Designation with Partner Indiana University Resilience Cohort**—Laura Henderson, Tristan Bogart, & Nancy Moldenhauer [Andie and Nancy presented on SolSmart Silver Designation and other successes including the Indiana Volkswagen Mitigation Trust electric-vehicle chargers grant]

(Marquiss Electric awarded contract for installation by MC Redevelopment Commission) and consultation work with U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory at MC City Council Meeting on April 5th; keep sharing our new link "Getting Started with Solar" on Sustainability Commission Michigan City Government website page.] <https://www.emichigancity.com/1214/Sustainability-Commission>

https://www.lpheralddispatch.com/news/local/michigan-city-receives-solSMART-silver-designation-as-a-solar-friendly-community/article_3109b373-55c2-5675-a41c-11e900ec66a0.html?fbclid=IwAR0GhLYHqOw3yISi54HKRrZZbCqSZfvYeaNeFOlizwGalL8gfVQtHV3Y0m8

https://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/laporte/michigan-city/solar-efforts-in-michigan-city-applauded/article_c2adef0a-3703-5422-94ec-707e5b02e6b8.html?fbclid=IwAR1hfYlWz352atwu05mEAH5XwHzc1QaKOh5f3JNbNhhLyTdjXAHc9v0T9gs

- G. **U.S Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)**—Ed Shinn, Tristan Bogart, Daisy Lee, Laura Henderson, & Nancy Moldenhauer [We are receiving FREE consulting, engineering, and planning services for solar array installation, electric vehicle charging stations, and electronic device chargers for workstations at Washington Park, Beach, and Zoo. When completed, we will have a plan to submit for an extremely promising future with potential green energy funding to be provided by the Federal Government. We're had our third exploratory meeting as a team with Scott Belding on April 21st. Ed Shinn, Supervisor of MC Parks & Recreation Department, and Nancy met with representatives of Environmental Management to pitch ideas for solar powered electric-vehicle and electronic-device chargers at Washington Park Beach and Zoo and of an artist commissioned native fish to collect recyclable plastic bottles and cans at Washington Park Beach of which they have provided contacts within NIPSCO for potential funding and support.]
- H. **Carbon Neutral Indiana (CNI)**—Andie Jahnz-Davis, Laura Henderson, Daisy Lee & Nancy Moldenhauer [Daisy Lee and Angie Reynolds womaned the CNI's table at our Earth Day Extravaganza with 15 sign ups and one subscriber in Porter so far. Who needs to schedule an assessment or get an update with Daniel, Executive Director and Founder of CNI?] <https://www.carbonneutralindiana.org/> ; <https://www.facebook.com/carbonneutralindiana>
- I. **Setting Regional Sustainable/Climate Goals and Actions**—Nancy Moldenhauer, Laura Henderson, & Daisy Lee [First meeting with Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) in partnership with NWI Region Resilience was held on May 5th. Nancy is serving on the NIRPC Task Force with Kathy Sipple.]
- J. **"Caught YOU Being Green"**—Andie Jahnz-Davis [Extremely successful Earth Day Extravaganza, April 23rd, Michigan City Public Library, sponsored over 20 nonprofit organizations and hosted approximately 300 attendees; requesting nomination submissions for Nora L. Schultz Tribute Sustainability Award in July by submitting to andie.id@yahoo.com]

https://www.lpheralddispatch.com/news/local/animals-steal-the-show-at-michigan-citys-inaugural-earth-month-extravaganza/article_9a124658-200c-5041-b99f-42bfca4637c3.html

https://www.lpheralddispatch.com/features/on_the_go/after-two-year-delay-inaugural-earth-month-celebration-coming-to-michigan-city/article_f6bf7b53-6a36-5a05-b345-6d07f9fe159e.html

- V. Commission Comments
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Announcements
- VIII. Adjournment