

# Commission on Sustainability



## MICHIGAN CITY INDIANA

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 4:30 pm  
City Hall, Community Room Downstairs  
Agenda

**Michigan City Sustainability Commissioners:** Tim Bauer, Laura Henderson (Secretary), Clarence Hulse, Andie Jahnz-Davis (Assistant Chair), 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 May 12, 2022 Minutes.
- III. Heartfelt thanks to Phillip Kohler for sharing his enthusiasm for bicycling and his full term of service to our Commission!
- IV. Move our regular time of meeting back to 4:30 pm since many voiced approvals in meeting earlier today?
- V. 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 Geisen-Carlisle headquartered in Crown Point; post to share final list on social media as "Caught YOU Being Green" feature]
  - C. **"Caught YOU Being Green"**—Andie Jahnz-Davis [Requesting nomination by June for Nora L. Schultz Tribute Sustainability Award in July by submitting to [andie.jd@yahoo.com](mailto:andie.jd@yahoo.com)]
  - D. **Waste Reduction/"Garbology"**—Daisy Lee, Tim Bauer, Bailey Chavis, Angela Reynolds, & Mary Cate Neary [Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for carbon footprint reduction indicates Michigan City and NWI are extremely high for sending trash to landfills instead of recycling; Ed Shinn, Supervisor of MC Parks & Recreation Department, and Nancy met with representatives of NIPSCO Environmental Management to share an idea of an artist commissioned native fish sculpture to collect recyclable plastic bottles and aluminum cans at Washington Park Beach which was received positively thus they provided contacts within NIPSCO for potential funding and support which require follow up]
  - E. **Solar United Neighbors (SUN)**—Faye Moore & Nancy Moldenhauer [Round Two of cooperative membership ended on February 28<sup>th</sup>, yet there could be one more contract signed. 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 6. Cancelled contract of 2. Installation completed on 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 [What could we do to continue leveraging SolSmart Silver Designation; keep sharing our new link "Getting Started with Solar" on Sustainability Commission Michigan City Government website page.] <https://www.emichiganity.com/1214/Sustainability-Commission>
- G. **U.S Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)**—Ed Shinn, Tristan Bogart, Bailey Chavis, Daisy Lee, Laura Henderson, & Nancy Moldenhauer [Scheduling our 4<sup>th</sup> meeting with our consultant Scott Belding of NREL. Connection between Scott and Kevin Kirkham, NIPSCO Manager of New Business in charge of renewable energy customer interconnections, has been made. 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.]
- H. **Setting Regional Climate/Resilience Goals and Actions**—Nancy Moldenhauer, Laura Henderson, & Andie Jahnz-Davis [Second meeting with Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) in partnership with NWI Region Resilience was held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with Laura and Nancy attending. Nancy is serving on the NIRPC Task Force with Kathy Sipple, Laura, and Andie. No July meeting.]
- I. **Carbon Neutral Indiana (CNI)**—Andie Jahnz-Davis, Laura Henderson, Daisy Lee & Nancy Moldenhauer [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>
- J. **Soul Power**—Faye Moore & Nancy Moldenhauer [Per Donnita Scully, NAACP Program Manager, new training was launched with partners WorkOne, Ivy Tech, and IBEW on June 6<sup>th</sup> with assistance of promotion and recruitment by Sustainability Commission on social media.]
- VI. **Opportunity**—Nancy Moldenhauer [RSVP intent to attend Drive Clean Indiana, Annual Conference & Expo, Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 8 am – 2:30 pm, Blue Chip Casino, indicate Chicken Piccata, Pasta Genovese, or special diet]
- VII. **Invitation**—Faye Moore & NAACP [Please join Just Transition NWI for [Protect Lake Michigan & Trail Creek: Urgent Community Health Forum](#) for a timely discussion on the impacts of toxic coal ash pollution from NIPSCO’s Michigan City coal plant on our health and well-being and how we can come together as a community for environmental justice on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 4 – 6 pm, Michigan City H.O.P.E. Community Center, FREE and open to the public, food and refreshments will be provided, please register in advance to secure your attendance: <https://plm-forum.eventbrite.com> Protect Lake Michigan from Coal Ash, sign their petition: [tinyurl.com/protectlakemichigan](http://tinyurl.com/protectlakemichigan)
- VIII. Commission Comments
- IX. Public Comments
- X. Announcements
- XI. Adjournment

