

Washtenaw County Environmental Council

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023
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 (5 Minutes)
 - a. February 28, 2023
5. Citizen Participation: (up to 4 minutes per speaker)
6. Council Responses to Citizen Participation
7. Special Presentations
8. Regular Business
 - a. Climate Action Plan
 - i. Implementation Recommendation Proposal
 - b. Committees and Committee Reports
9. New Business
 - a. Letter of Support – Ypsilanti Resiliency Center Grant Application
 - b. Proposed 2023 WCEC Agenda Topics
10. Communications and Reports



2023 Proposed RW
Topics for WCEC.pdf

A. Councilmembers

B. Staff

C. Committees

11. Adjourn

Next meeting:

April 25, 2023

5:00 PM

Remote through Zoom

Washtenaw County Environmental Council

Tuesday, February 28, 2022

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Remote Meeting via Zoom

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Gay MacGregor at 5:00 PM.

2. Attendance

Councilmembers:

Anne Brown	Present	City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Andrew Comai	Absent	-
Michelle Deatruck	Present	Superior Twp, Washtenaw County
Ruby Horton	Absent	-
Gay MacGregor	Present	City of Dexter, Washtenaw County
Kris Olsson	Absent	-
Yousef Rabhi	Present	Lansing, Ingham County
Avni Rao	Present	Pittsfield Twp, Washtenaw County
Elizabeth Ratzloff	Present	City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County
Tim Redmond	Present	Scio Township, Washtenaw County
Katie Scott	Present	Ann Arbor City, Washtenaw County
Annie Somerville	Present	Lansing, Ingham County
Theresa Tupacz	Present	Pittsfield Twp, Washtenaw County
Benjamin VanGessel	Present	Ann Arbor Twp, Washtenaw County
Lisa Wozniak	Absent	-

Staff Present: Andrew DeLeeuw, Jason Fee, Amanda Harris, Genavieve Cox

Others Present: Joet Reoma, Matt Naud

3. Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda was moved by Redmond and seconded by Brown. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. February 28, 2023

Approval of the January 23, 2023 minutes was moved by Scott and seconded by Deatruck. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

5. Citizen Participation:

None.

6. Council Responses to Citizen Participation

None.

7. Special Presentations

None.

8. Regular Business

a. Climate Action Plan Implementation Recommendations

Andrew DeLeeuw gave a project update by giving a brief report that wanted to follow up on implementation recommendations presented at the January meeting. He indicated that he would be developing those recommendations into an item to consideration by the Board of Commissioners in the coming months, and communicated that this would be returned to the council for review prior to board consideration

Councilmember MacGregor asked if budgetary numbers would be included in this process and Mr. DeLeeuw mentioned that his work includes identifying funding to support these positions

VanGessel asked Mr. DeLeeuw if the County is anticipating contractor support for working through any elements of the plan. Mr. DeLeeuw followed up with concerns with an immediate need for staffing, and having that future group be able to develop and refine how the rest of the plan gets implemented. Deatrick continued this conversation asking Mr. DeLeeuw what the timeline of this hiring process will be since there are many deadlines coming up in the near future. Mr. DeLeeuw advised that the board is responsible for making these deadlines but believes it will be completed by mid-summer/ end of the summer.

9. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Mr. DeLeeuw described that the bylaws call for two officer positions, a Chair and a Vice Chair, and that each are one year terms.

The nomination of Councilmember Deatrick for the position of Chair of the Washtenaw County Environmental Council was moved by Brown and seconded by Ratzloff. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

The nomination of Councilmember Brown for the position of Vice-Chair of the Washtenaw County Environmental Council was moved by Deatrick and seconded by Redmond. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilmember VanGessel asked about the process by which the Environmental Council makes formal statements in support or against a particular thing. Mr. DeLeeuw described the process by which the Council provided comment to the MiHealthyClimate plan in 2022, and suggested that this would be an area for further discussion by the Council with how they would like to approach future opportunities. He also described how the county communication lists should be managed.

Chair Deatrick asked about the onboarding process and materials provided to new members. Mr. DeLeeuw indicated that new appointees had been provided these materials, and that additional information could be made available to the whole of the group. The Chair asked, with concurrence from other members, for contact information, the bylaws, and past communications to be made available to members.

Mr. DeLeeuw also mentioned to the group about the individual who provided public comment at the January Meeting, Rosemarie Rowney, who shared concerns about the planned airport expansion in the City of Ann Arbor. Mr. DeLeeuw reported that he had requested additional information from the City on this project and would make it available to the Council at the future meeting.

Councilmember Ratzloff asked for information on the history of the use of committees within the Environmental Council, and how committees could be useful in supporting the work of the council and the implementation of the plan, and that she would be interested in serving on committees. Chair Deatrick suggested forming an Ad Hoc Committee which could look into topics for the council to consider this coming year, and also to look into developing a committee structure for the council.

10. Communications and Reports

A. Councilmembers

None

B. Staff

Genavieve Cox of Washtenaw County Human Resources provided information about paperwork needed by the county for per diem and reporting purposes, and provided her contact information for those with questions. Councilmember MacGregor asked questions about the per diem process, including comments about past year payments and tax reporting for retirees. Ms. Cox indicated that the County all appointees need to be compensated for their time attending meetings, and that they would be looking to make sure that this was handled appropriately in 2023.

Mr. DeLeeuw provided information about work being done to involve local college students in plan implementation, including a team project to provide support and information to local governments within the County through a project with a master's student group at the University of Michigan's School for Environment and Sustainability, summer master's student interns from the Ford School within County

Administration, and the regular review and consideration of grant funding opportunities from the State and Federal government which can support portions of the plan.

C. Committees

None

11. Tasks:

None.

12. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was moved by Redmond and seconded by Ratzloff. Approved unanimously by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Approved by the Environmental Council on _____

Minutes prepared by Andrew DeLeeuw,
Staff to the Environmental Council

Proposed Resilient Washtenaw Topics for 2023 WCEC Meetings

Date	Resilient Washtenaw Topic:
Tuesday, January 24, 2023	Status update since last meeting, Consultant proposal
Tuesday, February 28, 2023	Implementation Proposal - draft development
Tuesday, March 28, 2023	Implementation Proposal - final review
Tuesday, April 25, 2023	2.07 - County Buildings: Energy Policies, Projects, and opportunities
Tuesday, May 23, 2023	2.07 - County Fleet: Fleet Overview, current policies, opportunities
Tuesday, June 27, 2023	4.03 - All Season Non Motorized Transportation network: B2B, other efforts, WCRC,
Tuesday, July 25, 2023	6.01, 6.02 - Land Preservation: Partners, existing programs, report on current actions
Tuesday, August 22, 2023	8.06 - Solid Waste Ordinance Revisions
Tuesday, September 26, 2023	4.07, 4.08 - County Processes: Transportation, Parking, Remote Work, Purchasing
Tuesday, October 24, 2023	5.07 - Health Systems, Emergencies, and Climate Change
Tuesday, November 28, 2023	7.03, 7.04 - Stormwater Systems, requirements, risks, and plans