CALL TO ORDER
Chair Rick Cornforth called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:  NONE

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2019 SUSTAINABLE LA CROSSE COMMISSION:
MOTION by Sleznikow/Van Maren to approve the minutes of June 20, 2019.
Motion carried with two excused – Smith/Diermeier.

REPORTS/INFORMATIONAL UPDATES:
• Nick Nichols updated on the following:
  o Nick and Supervisor Mike Giese attended the City of Onalaska Public Works meeting on July 2nd. Supervisor Giese presented the mission, history and evolution of the Sustainable La Crosse Commission with the hope that they will become more involved with the Commission. There was interest and it would possibly be during the November/December timeframe before they become involved. Chair Cornforth reached out to the new Holmen Village President and there was interest in receiving the presentation.
  o Nick asked if there was any feedback/suggestions from the County Board about the information presented on the Indicators Report. Anders Olson pointed out that over the course of the time that the County has had the Indicators Report, those efforts have saved over $1.4M in costs. Upon request by Steve O’Malley and Jane Klekamp, Nick prepared and presented to the Commission some notes on the offsets that La Crosse County has with the gas-to-energy and waste-to-energy projects and how that affects the county’s usage.

PRESENTATION ON FOOD WASTE – TRACY ZHOU
Tracy Zhou highlighted some of the Onalaska High School projects that her and some classmates participated in to implement different sustainability initiatives:
• Formed a formal Sustainability Club.
• Did a composting day at all the elementary schools.
• Did a Food Waste Study – Educating high school students on sorting different foods that are compostable, non-compostable and plastic waste. The study showed how much waste was being produced of each type.
• The Club would like to get an Ecovim for the school which is a machine that dehydrates and turns all food waste (including meat, bones, dairy) into water and dried fertilizer in 12 hours.
• Met with the school’s Buildings and Grounds Director and got permission to start fund raising for the Ecovim machine which has a cost of $26,000.
• All disposable silverware was switched to metal.
• Created videos to educate students on sustainability.

DISCUSSION ON STRATEGIC PLAN REWRITE– CHARLIE HANDY AND NICK NICHOLS
Nick Nichols indicated that the Commission needs to present specific ideas, areas of interest, and costs associated with those ideas for the Strategic Plan rewrite. Once those have been identified, they will be presented to the County Administrator for incorporation into the 2020 budget. The City has budgeted $50,000 for an outside consulting firm to help with their portion of the rewrite. Recommended suggestions were:
• Energy Action Fair (Fall 2020): To educate/help community residents how to decrease their energy needs.
• Include how to increase transportation, improve water, etc.
• Include resilience to the mission statement and educate on it.
• Land Conservation
• Ground Water Contamination
• Storm Water Salting
A meeting will be scheduled to discuss strategic planning and set goals. Discussion ensued on how to proceed.

NEXT MEETING DATE: August 15, 2019, 4:30 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:
• Strategic Plan Rewrite
• Ready For 100 at the County Level

ADJOURNMENT
MOTION by Giese/Van Maren to adjourn. Motion carried with two excused – Smith/Diermeier.

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Approved August 22, 2019, Alice Sorenson, Recorder