



GREEN TIER LEGACY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 10:30 A.M.

This Meeting Will Be conducted Via Zoom Video Conferencing

To access the meeting electronically, click:

<https://zoom.us/j/4439901723?pwd=yAVpi40M1OlqgNufcVUE8XWCUSkKaH.1&omn=97063638580>

Meeting ID: 443 990 1723 Passcode: 304078

To connect by phone: 1-301-715-8592 - Meeting ID 443 990 1723#

For additional information check: www.sisterbaywi.gov

1	Chair – Kurt Harff	2	Paula Anschutz
3	Mary Smythe	4	Lisa O'Hearn
5	Sarah White	6	Lilly Orozco
			<i>Village Administrator – Julie Schmelzer</i>
	<i>Public Works Supervisor – Erik Linczmaier</i>		<i>Village Clerk – Heidi Teich</i>

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes – August 15, 2024
4. Comments, correspondence, and concerns from the public
5. Discussion/Action Items:
 - (a) Recycling Plan/Plastic Bag Update
6. Matters to be Placed on Future Agenda, Referred to a Committee, Official or Employee
7. Adjournment

Public Notice

Questions regarding the nature of the agenda items above or more detail on the agenda items scheduled to be considered by the governmental body can be directed to Julie Schmelzer, Village Administrator at julie.schmelzer@sisterbaywi.gov. It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies may attend the meeting to gather information; no action will be taken by any governmental body other than the body specifically referred to above in this notice. Upon reasonable notice, a good faith effort will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aid at no cost to the individual. Due to the difficulty in finding interpreters, requests should be made as far in advance as possible, preferably a minimum of 48 hours. For additional information or to request this service, contact the Sister Bay Village Administration Office at 854-4118, (FAX) 854-9637, or by writing to the Village Administration Building, 2383 Maple Drive, PO Box 769, Sister Bay, WI 54234. Copies of reports and other supporting documentation are available for review at the Village Administration Building during operating hours. (8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to noon on Fridays).

The Village of Sister Bay is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

AD HOC GREEN TIER LEGACY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 15, 2024
(Approval Pending)

Agenda Item No. 1. The August 15, 2024 meeting of the Green Tier Legacy Community Committee was called to order by Chairperson Kurt Harff at 10:01 A.M.

Present: Kurt Harff, Lisa O'Hearn, Paula Anschutz and Mary Smythe. Lilly Orozco and Sarah White were absent.

Staff: Village Administrator Julie Schmelzer and Clerk Heidi Teich

Others: Laurel Harff

Agenda Item No. 2. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by O'Hearn, seconded by Smythe that the Agenda for the August 15, 2024 meeting of the Ad Hoc Green Tier Legacy Community Committee be approved as presented. Motion carried – All ayes.

Agenda Item No. 3. Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Smythe, seconded by O'Hearn that the minutes of the July 11, 2024 meeting of the Ad Hoc Green Tier Legacy Community Committee be approved as presented. Motion carried – All ayes.

Agenda Item No. 4. Comments, correspondence, and concerns from the public

Correspondence for this meeting was received from Meg Ziegelmann, who alerted the committee to a Wisconsin law that prohibits bans on "single-use" plastics. This was put in place under former Gov. Scott Walker, so more research will need to be done regarding this law. This information was also included in the packet under Agenda Item No. 5c.

Agenda Item No. 5. Discussion/Action Items:

a) Battery Recycling Update

Since the last meeting, Harff conducted some research on the availability of battery recycling facilities in Door County. He learned that Door County Scrap Metal in Sturgeon Bay does not accept household batteries of any kind, but they do accept auto batteries. Going Garbage, Sister Bay, does accept household batteries but with a fee of at least \$1.00 per 3-cup container. Automotive batteries are accepted for a fee of \$10.

The committee discussed the possibility of posting the names and locations of facilities that do accept batteries, as they are discovered, on the website for the public's reference. They also discussed the possibility of asking residents to save their discarded batteries, especially hearing aid batteries which are not overly large and cumbersome, for the spring recycling event.

O'Hearn shared information on TerraCycle, a waste management company that offers recycling

1 options for communities. She indicated that 3.5 gallon bins could be purchased for a nominal
2 fee (\$151), placed around the village, and then shipped back to the company. Additional
3 research is needed on the associated costs, particularly for shipping as the containers would be
4 heavy, and potential drop-off locations.

5
6 Smythe noted that she is willing to share information with Sarah White, who is a member of
7 Northern Door Activism, to see if their organization would be interested in promoting battery
8 recycling as well.

9
10 Schmelzer asked the committee to begin thinking of an actionable plan that they could propose
11 to the board before it is introduced to the public.

12
13 **b) NexTrex Recycling Challenge**

14 **c) Discussion on Plastics Ban/Recycling Locations**

15
16 The NexTrex company offers a plastic recycling challenge, and information on the event was
17 included in the meeting packet. Once a community or organization commits to the challenge,
18 they have one year to collect 1000 pounds of plastic and will receive a Trex bench for meeting
19 the challenge. Harff found the challenge intriguing as the NexTrex company is actively
20 searching out plastics for their production facilities. A list of plastic recycling drop-off sites in
21 Wisconsin was also included in the meeting packet.

22
23 Also included in the meeting packet was information on Wisconsin Act 302, passed in 2023,
24 which does not permit the banning of plastics. Schmelzer presented an idea to ask businesses to
25 voluntarily stop using single-use plastics, such as shopping bags. However, the village desires
26 to find a way to address other types of plastic, such as the wrap that comes on shipped goods.
27 Currently, there is no place in northern Door to collect that type of waste. Schmelzer contacted
28 Trex Company and learned that Sister Bay could become a plastic collection site. Trex would
29 supply a baler for gathering plastics, and promotional materials to get started. They would also
30 come to collect the bales of plastic. Schmelzer then spoke of the need to find a storage location
31 for the baler and bales. Additionally, there would need to be staff to monitor the site and
32 operate the baler. Schmelzer also questioned where the financial support to operate the site
33 would come from, and if the Town of Liberty Grove or Door County would be willing to
34 contribute to the costs as the site would be open to all northern door residents.

35
36 Smythe felt that this would be a good project for the Sister Bay Green Tier Legacy Community.
37 She wondered if Going Garbage would be willing to supply a collection site on their property
38 for the plastic baler, but it is unknown whether people will drive to Going Garbage to deliver
39 their plastics.

40
41 Anschutz felt the recycling challenge included in the meeting packet would be worthwhile
42 opportunity for the Green Tier Legacy Community to promote a move away from plastic use,
43 especially if the committee is also exploring options to provide reuseable bags to the community
44 members. She also agrees that a collection site is needed in northern Door. Schmelzer shared
45 that she will need to bring this request to the Parks, Property & Streets Committee, but did not
46 feel they would be opposed to being a collection site as the village is already collecting holiday
47 lights for recycling within the community.

Schmelzer stated that it may be worth exploring grants through Destination Door County to offer the local businesses opportunities to come up with alternatives to plastic materials.

Anschutz reported that she did speak with members of the SBAA board regarding eliminating plastic bags in the village. She also spoke with an employee of On Deck, who shared the concern that they already have pallets of their trademark plastic shopping bags in stock. However, they would be open to making a change if reasonable alternatives are found. Paper is not necessarily the best alternative. The key will be to advertise and promote Sister Bay's efforts to be more green, and offer sustainable alternatives that are cost effective for the business community.

The committee transitioned to a conversation on offering reusable bags to the community, and O'Hearn provided a wealth of information which was included in the meeting packet.

Anschutz reported that the bags she investigated, recycled sails make into canvas bags, would cost no less than \$25.00/each, which is cost prohibitive for this committee.

The committee noted that there is a wide variety of reusable bag options, and Schmelzer asked for an action plan to begin a program to circulate bags to the community. Decisions that need to be made include the type of material to use, how many to order (5000), the cost of production, and design. A budget will need to be developed, and then the committee can apply for grant funding. Later decisions will be on methods of distribution (give away at elections or village festivals) and whether or not to charge for the bags (sell them at the Piggly Wiggly). Schmelzer clarified that distribution may depend on where the funding for the bags came from as you would not charge individuals for bags that were obtained with public grant funds. O'Hearn is open to designing the bag, or the village could host a contest for a design. Ultimately, they want to make sure that the bag is attractive enough that people will want it.

d) Blue Zone Update

Schmelzer reported that she did draft a press release as planned at the last meeting but decided against sending it. Sister Bay needs a team of individuals who can focus solely on Blue Zones and ensure that efforts to transform into a Blue Zone community continue. We are not at that point yet, and investing money now to bring in speakers to conduct an assessment and educate the public without that core group to advance the mission is a gamble.

Anschutz agreed that Green Tier needs a greater presence in the community before taking on something as broad as Blue Zones. The committee can advocate now for healthy living and sustainable practices as they grow.

Agenda Item No. 6. Matters to be placed on a future agenda or referred to a committee, official, or employee

It was the consensus of the committee that the following topics be discussed at a future meeting:

- Discussion on recycling options for future Fall Fest events

The next meeting of the Sister Bay GTLC Committee will take place Thursday, September 19, 2024 at

1 10:30 A.M. via ZOOM.

2

3 **Adjournment:** *A motion was made by Smythe, seconded by O'Hearn to adjourn the August 15, 2024*
4 *at 11:00 A.M. Motion carried – all ayes.*

5

6 Respectfully submitted,

7 

8 Heidi Teich,

9 Village Clerk



Outlook

GTLC October Member Meeting Follow-up and Resources

From DNR GTLC <DNRGTLC@wisconsin.gov>

Date Fri 11/1/2024 10:34 AM

To DNR GTLC <DNRGTLC@wisconsin.gov>

Greetings, Legacy Communities!

Thanks for joining our member meeting earlier this week. We hope you found value in the information presented and the updates from your fellow members. Thank you to the Village of Bayside and all our speakers for your help in putting the meeting together!

Resources from the meeting are included below:

- The slides, recordings of the presentations and round-robins, and a transcript of the chat are saved in the [GTLC portal](#)
- Presenter contact information:
 - **Drew Shuster**, Director of Conservation and Land Management, Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, dshuster@schlitzaudubon.org
 - **Emma Baumgartner**, Operations Coordinator, Village of Bayside, ebaumgartner@baysidewi.gov
 - **Erin Povak**, Watershed Program Director, Sweet Water, povak@swwtwater.org
 - **Andy Kaminski**, Senior Project Manager, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, AKaminski@mmsd.com
- **If you would like a CEU for the meeting, please respond to this email and let me know**

Lastly, a couple notes on upcoming network meetings:

- Please join us for the Scoresheet Guidelines webinar on **Monday, November 11 at 12pm**. You should have received the meeting invitation, but if you didn't you can reach out to me.
- Invitations for the COMPLETELY VIRTUAL 2025 meetings will go out soon, so be on the lookout for those as well. The dates for those meetings are listed below for your reference. As usual, all meetings will take place from 1:00-4:00pm.
 - Monday, January 27, 2025
 - Monday, March 31, 2025
 - Monday, June 30, 2025
 - Monday, September 29, 2025

Have a nice weekend, everyone!

Mandoline Bergstrom

Pronouns: she/her

Project Coordinator – External Services

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Phone: 608-445-9488

mandaline.bergstrom@wisconsin.gov



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