



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Minutes

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 6:00pm

McCloskey Conference Room — City Hall

1. **Call to Order:** Justin called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm
2. **Roll Call:**

Members

Commissioner	Present	Virtual	Note
Tara Dunderdale	X		
Justin Vasel	X		
Matt Austin	X		
Dave Rollo		X	
Quentin Gilly	X		
Alex Jorck	X		
Jami Scholl	X		
Evan Nix		X	Cannot Vote
Annalise Janke	X		
Diana Ogrodowski	X		
Chenghuai Xu		X	
Zero Rose			

City Staff

Jolie Perry



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Shawn Miya

3. Approval of Agenda

ACTION: Justin moved to move agenda item 7b to after item 5 and before item 6
Dave Rollo seconded. Motion Passed with a Roll Call vote of 9-0-0.

4. Approval of Minutes: Aug 12, 2025 and April 12, 2025

ACTION: Analise moved to adopt both minutes Matt seconded. Motion Passed
with a Roll Call vote of 8-0-1.

5. Public Comment

No public comment

6. Reports from Commissioners

A. Chair (Justin Vasel) - Commissioner Jon Eldon seat has expired. The city has one application already. Next meeting is Nov 18th to account for the holiday. Nov 4 or 10 are possible options for a special meeting if we need to vote on items. The commission is 20 - October 25, 2005 was the first meeting.

B. Waste Management Working Group (Matt Austin) - Grant application is in process and should be available for the next meeting. The state is working on waste reduction. Waste reduction district meeting this Thursday has a speaker from a composting company who is seeking restaurant food waste. The meeting is 5:30 October 16, 2025 in the county offices. There will be a virtual option and streamed on CATS. ESD has the list of restaurants that participated in composting with Earth Keepers that can be shared.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

C. Cob Bench Project Update (Evan Nix, Zero Rose) - Evan is relocating and will resign seat and needs a new project manager for the bench project. Current grant project needs to be completed by December 31, 2025. A no cost extension could be applied for - there would need to be a new project manager before the no cost extension could be sought. The remaining work is coordinating the scheduling with Redbud books and communicating with volunteers. 811 call has been completed.

- Bench would be built over 3 sessions, digging and setting foundation and roof, then build the cob needs to sit and cure, then plastering.

If another commissioner wants to take over the city needs the no cost extension by December 1 and a reconfirmation from all the partners, with the new project manager in place.

Build likely needs to wait until spring. April at the earliest. Midnovember would be the latest this year it could be built and cure properly.

Justin will send the proposal for commissioners to review. Anyone wanting to take it on should respond to Justin by October 21, 2025 to begin the no cost extension application otherwise steps will be taken to return the funds.

D. Sustainability Forum Recap (Chenghuai Xu) - Data manager from Indiana Conservation Voters spoke about her work. Attendance was sparse- lessons learned around other possible avenues for outreach for future talks. Future talks need to be noticed to ensure quorum issues if commissioners attend.

E. Council Ex-Officio (Dave Rollo) - no report this week



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COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

7. Discussion of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions

- a. **Resilience Strategy:** first round comments - comments can be made using the version in the packet from this week. Will be added as a topic for conversation at the next working session.

- b. **BCOS-Sponsored O'Neill School Capstone Project - Vote to approve project description (Alex Jorck).** Alex shared a proposal for a capstone project in partnership with the O'Neill school on the feasibility of a municipal electric utility. No cost to BCOS or the city.

Only commitment is a BCOS point of contact and potentially feedback from other commissioners. Alex will serve in that role.

City involvement may include occasional questions for city staff from students or the BCOS point of contact. Students will share the report and make a presentation available. Management of the students would be done by the professor (John Rupp). BCOS would field questions and direct them to the city.

Meeting could be at a commission meeting in the spring.

ACTION: Alex moves to Roll call vote to approve BCOS as the client for this capstone project. Passed with a Roll Call vote of 9-0-0.

C. Working Group Grant: Sustainability Education & Outreach (Tara

Dunderdale) - Grant has been reviewed by ESD staff - has some follow up waiting from legal department. The application should be available for the next business meeting.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

8. Resolutions for Second Reading and Discussion

- a. N/A

9. Resolutions for First Reading and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2025-04 to recommend adding “resilience” to the
Commission’s name**

ACTION: Councilmember Rollo moved to advance the resolution to a second reading. Matt Austin seconded. Motion Passed with a Roll Call vote of 9-0-0.

10. Report from Staff Liaison

Sustainability Spooktacular - next event is a tree planting with Canopy
Bloomington in Butler Park. Has full staff of volunteers. October blockparty
following on October 25.

Sustainability homes rebates have been fully expended.

No sustainable neighborhood grants so far.

11. Member Announcements

Nov 4th is a workshop in the community orchard on Bokashi 1-2:30.

Work session is on November 4th and next meeting is 7:30

12. New Business

13. Adjournment

7:30 pm.