

**Red Wing Sustainability Commission
Workshop
Community Development Building
June 24, 2025**

Members Present: Chair Kristen Bandurski; Commissioners Maddie Brown, Dan Evanson, Mark Berman (arrived at 5:37 p.m.), and Hugh Brown (arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

Members Absent: Commissioner Joshua Meyer (unexcused absence) and Commissioner Shawn Carney (unexcused absence)

Others Present: Brandy Howe, Staff Liaison; Kim Beise, Council Liaison (left at 6:58 p.m.); David Anderson; Maura Curry; Wendy Johnson; Tilton Davis

1. Roll Call

The workshop was convened at 5:35 p.m. Workshop attendees introduced themselves.

2. Communication Items

A. City Council Liaison Report.

Council Liaison Beise stated that Mayor Iocco is exploring the possibility of appointing a voting student liaison to some of the City's commissions.

B. Subcommittee Reports.

The committee structure was discussed.

3. Workshop Items

A. Jay McCleary Sustainability Award.

The award was discussed.

B. Bee City USA.

This item was discussed following discussion of Item 2B.

Chair Bandurski referenced a recent meeting of members of Resilient Red Wing during which the Bee City initiative was discussed. Maura Curry discussed continued care of the pollinator project at Featherstone Park and provided handouts.

A potential pollinator ordinance was discussed. Chair Bandurski commented that the Public Works Department receives complaints about residents who allow their lawn heights to exceed the City's current standards, especially early in the season to help support pollinators. She discussed the No Mow May campaign and referenced current research that calls into question the effectiveness of these efforts. She summarized a discussion with Public Works staff regarding a potential policy that would allow residents with intentional pollinator spaces to register with the City and enter into an agreement.

Chair Bandurski provided examples of other communities that have adopted similar policies. Language from State legislation was referenced. The next steps in the process were reviewed, including the need for public education. Fences and a potential lot survey were discussed.

Event Calendar.

Potential Sustainability Commission participation in upcoming events was discussed, including the Red Wing Farmers Market, River City Days, and the Downtown Trunk or Treat activity. Consideration of a pollinator lawn and garden tour during River City Days was suggested.

4. Announcements

A. Topics for Future Agendas.

Suggestions for future agenda topics were offered, including the Sustainability Commission budget, upcoming events, a tree planting in Featherstone Park, and the Jay McCleary Sustainability Award.

B. Next Meeting Date.

July 17 was discussed as a potential next meeting date. Email communication Sustainability Commission members and calendar invites were discussed.

5. Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 7:07 p.m.