BERKLEY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of August 21, 2025  
  
 6:30 PM   
  
 2nd Floor Meeting Room, Public Safety Building

MINUTES

* 1. Welcome and Introductions called to order at 6:34. Members present: Tricia Losey, Jason Benedict, Madeline Alexander, Noel Rendelman, Caroline Dicks, Ashley Merz
  2. Approval of Agenda motion to approve by Dicks, support by Rendelman
  3. Approval of Minutes of June 2025 meeting motion to approve by Benedict, support by Dicks

4. Public Comment-no one present

5. Chairperson’s Report - (Richardson)   
  
 The 30% federal tax credit for residential solar panels is being terminated at the end of the year. To qualify for a credit on 2025 taxes, solar panels and systems must be completely installed and operational by December 31, 2025. (Note: this is a different program than the Michigan energy savings grant program I have discussed at prior meetings).

Further information here: <https://www.greenlancer.com/post/solar-tax-credit->   
 6. City Council Liaison Report - (Councilperson Vilani) see attached councilperson’s report  
  
 7. Staff Liaison Report: (Merz) Touch-a-Truck is on 9/13 from 10-1, open to all volunteer boards to have a table. The Revolving Energy Fund has about $20,000 left in it, Alex Brown, our facilities manager, wants our committee to start researching projects that could be funded or matched with a grant.   
  
 8. Discussion Item: Native Plant Sale 9/21/2025 (Losey) 10-2 at Berkley Public Library, will need a few tables. Losey has created a flyer for it and posted it on the website. Submitted to the City to be put on the city marquees. Can we post them around town as well?  
  
 9. Old Business: discussion of 2026 meeting schedule. Dicks motions to approve moving the meetings to the 3rd Tuesday, Madeline supports. All in favor; motion passed.

Recap of the Clothing Swap-a great test drive of this type of event, about 25 people showed up to swap. All leftover clothing was further donated to Goodwill. Encouraged to do more like this in the future.

13. New Business: A potential clothing swap/sweater swap for the fall-partnering with the Library or another business? Merz will reach out to DDA and the Rec Center to see where it could be held. Dicks will reach out to some local businesses for potential partnering.

There is money earmarked for a small native gardenbed-members should be scouting out potential locations for approx. 200-250 sq ft, bring info to next meeting.

14. Announcements:

Regional Storm Water Summit, Lawrence Tech, Friday October 10 2025.

Registration fee $35.00   
  
 Event website: <https://www.mi-stormwatersummit.com>

Benedict continues to work on the idea of a portable bike rack for future bike corrals   
  
 15. Adjourn-Dicks motions, Alexander seconds, meeting adjourned at 7:37