

BERKLEY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of November 20, 6:30 PM

2nd Floor Meeting Room, Public Safety Building

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Called to order at 6:31 pm

Members present: Tricia Losey, Madeline Alexander, Noel Rendelman, Mark Richardson, Ashley Merz (staff liaison), Gary Elrod (council liaison).

Members absent: Jason Benedict, Caroline Dicks

2. Approval of Agenda: T. Losey motioned, board supported

3. Approval of Minutes, October, 2025 meeting: M. Alexander motioned, T.

Losey support

4. Public Comment: none

5. Chairperson's Report: (Richardson) Attended a zoom call sponsored by the Northern Michigan Environmental Action council. The moderator was Peter Sinclair and they discussed what local municipalities can do to shrink their carbon footprint. Obtained good contacts for further information.

Myhomegrownpower.com, sun101.org, and wind101.org

6. City Council Liaison Report: (Councilperson Elrod): Last council meeting was primarily a financial reconciliation meeting. The city is in good financial footing however large capital investments are on hold short term. The Bacon project is forthcoming and our board may want to provide suggestions for green infrastructure to be considered.

7. Staff Liaison Report: (Merz) The yearly accomplishment summary is due to her by the end of the year. The meeting schedule and location has been confirmed for 2026. The yearly work plan for next year will also need to be submitted. She mentioned that we may want to provide input on the possibility of EV chargers at DPW for the Bacon project. The outdoor parking will be reconfigured when the project is being done.

8. Action Item: Summary of 2025 activities:

M. Richardson had provided an updated draft for a vote. The clothing swap attendance figure will need to be added after the event has occurred. We discussed keeping track of the number of volunteers at each event as well as the number of hours worked in the future. These figures would be helpful if applying for grants that allow in kind contributions. Motion to approve with discussed edits by T. Losey, support by N. Rendelman. Approved unanimously.

9. Discussion Item: December 6 Clothing Swap (Brohn-Dicks): C. Dicks was absent. T. Losey will share the flyer she provided from the library to the Facebook page. A. Merz will reach out to Caitlin Flora so the city can promote the event. N. Rendelman will send out a sign up genius to solicit high school student volunteers for the event.

10. Discussion Item: Recommendation for locating native plant bed (All): A. Merz shared that the Library location is being used by the Beautification committee, so our native plant bed will need to be located at the community center. Once location is determined we will send the completed proposal to our staff liaison for approval. Garden sites are being assigned by the Beautification committee now.

11. Discussion Item: 2026 Work Plan (All): Further discussion of the committee's vision for the 2026 work plan. The final draft will be presented for approval at the January meeting. The main areas of interest: transportation (Bike lanes, EV chargers, bike corrals/racks), Green Infrastructure (native plant sales and native plant garden installation, rain gardens), Recycling (minimum 2

city electronic days, increasing resident recycling rates to the state level of 25%, public education/outreach, various sustainability events, explore composting education and services). Explore and recommend revolving energy fund project ideas. Possible ordinance recommendations pertaining to environmental issues/concerns (noise/light pollution, carbon pollution, native plant/green infrastructure requirements) after study and review. Keep looking for grant opportunities to pursue.

12. Old Business: none

13. New Business: none

14. Announcements: none

15. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by T. Losey, support by M. Alexander, unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm

Next meeting Tuesday January 20, 2026 at 6:30pm