

**MINUTES
CITY OF EDINA MINNESOTA
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
EDINA CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
Thursday March 14, 2013
7:05 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER 7:05p.m.

II. ROLL CALL Answering Roll Call was Brandt, Gubrud, Heer, Howard, Kostuch, Latham, Rudnicki, and Sokol

Late Arrival: Thompson, Zarrin

Absent: Risser, Chair Sierks

Staff Present: Ross Bintner and Rebecca Foster

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion made by Member Gubrud and seconded by Member Latham to approve the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes. Change "two more meetings" under motion on pg. 6 to "several".

B. Attendance report and roster. No Comment.

C. Workgroup list and minutes. Remove the past students and Todd Willmert from the Education and Outreach and Germana Paterlini and Peter Larson from the Energy Working Groups.

Motion made by Member Gubrud and seconded by Member Rudnicki to approve the Consent Agenda with amended Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

V. COMMUNITY COMMENT. No Comments.

VI. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair

Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Heer to approve the nomination of Member Sierks for Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Member Gubrud and seconded by Member Latham to approve the nomination of Member Heer for Vice Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Nominations for Recognition Event. Mr. Bintner explained how the EEC gets to nominate one person per their Individual Organization and they may nominate someone for the Mayor's Commendation Award for the 34th Annual Volunteer Awards Reception on April 30th.

Member Zarrin arrived at 7:15p.m.

Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Gubrud to delegate to John Heer the determination of a volunteer based on any further nominations sent in prior to April 5th and he determines which one is the best along with Chair Sierks. Motion carried unanimously.

Aileen Foley was suggested later in the meeting by Member Zarrin for her volunteer efforts with the Edina Business Recycling Task Force.

- C. HES-Enhanced. Carl Nelson, Manager of Center for Energy and Environment, presented Home Energy Squad Enhanced, so the city can decide if it would like to participate in the new program. The CEE is a comprehensive residential energy efficiency program for the City of Edina. Home Energy Squad Enhanced is similar to the Home Energy Squad that includes a two hour visit from CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy to install materials such as a programmable thermostat, door weather-stripping, etc. The Enhanced program will additionally do a blower door test, other diagnostic work for major upgrade for potential energy savings, provide a Home Energy Report, a call line for follow up questions, assistance with utility rebates and financing. The City's cost would be \$70 for each visit which is \$50 to homeowners and \$20 to CEE. The goal is to have 200 homes participate in the program for a total of \$14,000 to the city. CEE coordinates the community engagement and education about the program.

Motion made by Member Latham to forward to Council for the 2014 budget. Acting Chair Heer would like to do it sooner than 2014. Mr. Bintner said he has already worked it into an Energy Service budget he is proposing. He'll present that budget at the May EEC meeting.

- D. April 18 Event: What's Up with the Weather? Our Changing Climate in Minnesota. Jennifer Bennerotte, Communication & Technology Services Director, presented the City's different communications available for Boards and Commissions to use to promote events or other news. Mrs. Bennerotte requests that all messages are sent through Ross Bintner the EEC staff liaison.

Member Thompson arrived at 7:59p.m.

1. *About Town* is published quarterly and is the only communication that is distributed to all households in the City and most businesses. It has a deadline of three months prior to print.
2. *Videos Agenda:Edina* airs daily and covers items that have been on the City Council and Boards and Commissions Agendas.
3. *City Extra* is a free email notification service, but residents need to subscribe to it.
4. *Social Media* is available through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Four Square.
5. *Website* The City of Edina's website is its primary online communication tool. The EEC staff liaison is responsible for keeping the EEC webpage current.

Mrs. Bennerotte reviewed the 2013 project deadlines for each of the communication tools. Utility Billing stuffers are the cheapest print.

The April 18th event has been advertised through posters, half sheet flyer, Facebook, City's website and calendar in About Town and Agenda Edina and city extra.

Acting Chair Heer suggested creating a Communications Working Group to think through communication strategy's for the EEC. Member Thompson requested \$150 for refreshments. Mr. Bintner said the Community Foundation money needs to be used before the City's EEC budget. Mr. Bintner will ask about the City's Honorarium policy.

- E. Summary of City Environmental Goals. Mr. Bintner presented the City's Environment and Sustainability Goal Summary. The City's Mission and Vision has no sustainability in it. Mr. Bintner reviewed some City Council resolutions and City ordinances that mention environmental services or specific goals. The 2008 Comp Plan Chapter 10 relates to the 2013 Work Plan item #3. Member Rudnicki would like to see new developments be reviewed with an environmental analysis. Member Kostuch would like to see the City lead by example through own facility's and operations. Member Kostuch would like Mr. Bintner's summary to be posted on the EEC webpage. Mr. Bintner reviewed the City's core functions and where environment services fit into the City's organization.
- F. Air and Water Quality WG. No Comment.

Laura Adler, Water Resource Coordinator, introduced herself and said she'll be working on the Wellhead Protection Plan, Storm Water Prevention Pollution Plan and Comprehensive Water Resource Management Plan.

- G. Education Outreach WG. Member Gubrud presented the 2013 Earth Day proclamation.

Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Thompson to approve the Earth Day proclamation. Motion carried unanimously.

- H. Energy WG. No Comment.
- I. Recycling & Solid Waste WG. Member Latham gave an update on some single sort complaints especially with narrow driveways due to snow there is no place to put the cart, now you can leave the cart up by the house. Also, excess cardboard not being picked up outside of cart, now it will be picked up if you bundle it or order a larger cart.
 - i. Business recycling task force. Member Zarrin gave an update on Hennepin County's business handout will be ready next month. Allied Waste gave a presentation at the EBR meeting on how businesses can save money while recycling. Edina Reality will be a pilot business to start a recycling program. Member Zarrin would like to replace the Edina Go Green name. The Edina Go Green will provide reusable bags with the City logo on it for the Farmers Market.
- J. Student Initiatives. The Superintendent might assign a budget for hand dryers, since project earth didn't receive the grant to install them.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS

- A. Regional Indicators Report. Information only. Member Latham requested that information only items be released ASAP outside of the EEC packet to make them available to pass on. Member Rudnicki asked for clarification of the report at another meeting.

VIII. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS. No Comment.

IX. STAFF COMMENTS

- A. Electric Vehicle Grant. Mr. Bintner applied for an Electric Vehicle grant. Member Kostuch asked if the vehicle was going to be new or replace an existing vehicle and will the mileage usage occur to get the money back due to of the battery life?
- B. Earth Day Proclamation. This item was discussed under the Education Outreach Working Group update.
- C. 2013 EEC Meeting Schedule. Member Latham would like to add Urban Forest Task Force to April, May and June meetings. Recycling will be added in April.
- D. Website metrics. Information only.
- E. Neighborhood reconstruction seed/sod purchasing. Mr. Bintner said the City is Hydroseeding instead of using sod when restoration is needed.
- F. Council actions; urban forestry and turf management. The Council added the Urban Forest Task Force to the 2013 Work Plan.
- G. France Avenue urban design charrette. Mr. Bintner announced there is a request for volunteers to review the France Ave design.

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, Acting Chair Heer declared the meeting adjourned at 9:29p.m.

Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Zarrin to adjourn meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Foster
GIS Administrator