

MINUTES
CITY OF EDINA MINNESOTA
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
EDINA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Thursday January 9, 2014
7:02 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER** 7:02 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL.** Answering Roll Call was Bale, Heer, Kostuch, Latham, Sokol, Thompson, Zarrin and Chair Sierks.
Absent: Gubrud, Howard, Risser, Rudnicki
Staff Present: Ross Bintner and Rebecca Foster
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

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

- IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**
- A. Minutes
 - B. Attendance report and roster
 - C. Workgroup list and minutes

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

- V. COMMUNITY COMMENT.** No Comment.
- VI. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. City of Edina Purchasing Policy. Mr. Neal, City Manager, gave an update on the first Environmental Purchasing Policy Report. The policy was adopted in 2011 and is meant to serve as a guide to the selection of goods and services that have minimal impact on the environment. The challenges were balancing cost efficiencies and payback of technologies and improvements and the effectiveness of new and emerging technologies of how to determine if the green product is effective. Tim Barnes, Facility Manager, will help promote and communicate the policy better across the departments. Next year, the report will include what the City can't buy under the environmental policy.
Mr. Neal gave an update on the McKinstry improvement project of lighting, building envelope, solar panel and water conservation on city facilities. The project guaranteed savings of \$50,077 each year and the actual savings was \$52,136. The majority of savings was 64% in lighting. The City reduced its carbon emissions by 292 metric tons for electricity, 85 metric tons for natural gas, and saved enough water to fill half of an Olympic pool.
- B. Municipal Waste and Recycling. Member Latham gave an update on recycling. Single Sort had an increase in all commodities. The Park Recycling project continues to be a success and more bins will be added this year. Organic Recycling continues at City Hall and Edinborough with no expansion in 2013, due to implementing of single sort recycling. There's no update on the Trash Collection reporting, because not all of the 2013 reports have been received.

- C. Business Recycling Task Force. Member Zarrin gave an update on lessons learned with business recycling in the community. First, there is a financial and environmental case to be made to support business recycling. Second, some businesses want to recycle, but don't have access to do it. Third, some businesses have access to recycling but the employees/customers lack training. Finally, single user facilities tend to make recycling available while fewer multiple tenant commercial properties offer recycling. Hennepin County has secured a grant to help businesses to start and/or improve recycling.
- D. Education and Outreach Working Group. Member Thompson reviewed the 2013 accomplishments. First, "What's up with the Weather" forum with Paul Douglas. Second, participated in the City's July 4th parade in conjunction with the Center for Energy and Environment. Third, Edina Day of Service had four Home Energy Squad visits. Edina Interfaith Environmental Coalition organized workshop on reducing salt use to protect waters.
 - The 2014 goals are a "Chasing Ice" movie on January 17th at City Hall and the "More Than Honey" movie will be held March 21st. The Earth Day celebration will be "What will Turn You on in 2013" held April 29th at Southview Middle School with Michael Noble, Director of Fresh Energy.
- E. Energy
 - i. B3. Mr. Bintner gave an update on the Building Energy Use Benchmark System which is an electricity and natural gas energy performance management for the City facilities. The Citywide Benchmark is 1.06BM. Individual facilities range from 0.27BM to 2.87BM.

Member Zarrin excused herself from the meeting at 7:49p.m.

- Mr. Bintner gave a detailed update on the Public Works, City Hall and Braemar Arena buildings.
- ii. Home Energy Squad. Mr. Bintner gave an update of the work done by Center for Energy and Environment. Home Energy Squad is a 2hr visit by two energy experts that reviews door weather stripping; install compact florescent light bulbs, installation in the attic, and more. The Enhanced visit includes a blower door test and other diagnostic work for potential energy upgrades. The estimated average saving is \$82 per household.
- iii. Renewable Energy. Member Heer said a goal for this year is to continue the City of Edina's Building Efficiency with additional energy improvements. Member Heer would like to review Xcel Energy's Community Solar program and learn how Edina can become involved with it.
- F. Student Initiatives
 - i. General. Member Bale gave an update on the installation of hand dryers in the high school bathrooms to remove paper towel waste.
 - ii. Project Earth Solar Charging. Member Sokol gave an update on the Pilot Solar Power Project. Solar panels will run current to the media center to a charging station for student's phones, laptops, etc.
- G. Urban Forests Task Force. Member Latham gave an update on the Urban Forest Task Force. The report includes a Proposed policy for Emerald Ash Borer developed by the City Forester, Increase Tree Planting on public and private property, Update City of Edina Tree Ordinances 1200, 850.10, and 1055 with respect to trees, Living Streets tree planting and Review recommendations for Applicable Green Step Cities Best Practices. The Tree Preservation Ordinance for Redevelopment Projects was referred to the Planning Commission.
- H. Sustainability Task Force. Member Kostuch gave an update on the new task force. The goal is to put in place an environmental considerations form to attach to the capital budget projects process to make the city consider environmental impacts on new projects.

- I. Local Food Working Group. Member Latham gave an update on the new local food working group. The goal is to implement the Green Steps Cities Local Foods Best Practice which includes Community Gardens, Chicken and Bee Keeping. In May 2013, a Community Garden of 50 plots was established in Yorktown Park. The proposed Chicken Keeping will be for Hens only and is for pest management and companion animals more so than for egg production. The Bee Keeping needs a public education program on Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) before implementing an ordinance. The plan is to provide an educational series as follows: in March view the "More Than Honey" movie, in April provide a program on landscaping for pollinators and in May provide a program on integrated pest management for residential yards and gardens. The LFTF ultimately hopes to have a demonstration hive in a city park.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS No Comment.

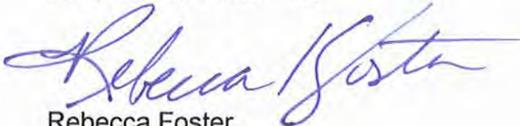
VIII. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS No Comment.

IX. STAFF COMMENTS No Comment.

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, Chair Sierks declared the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Foster
GIS Administrator