

MINUTES
CITY OF EDINA MINNESOTA
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
EDINA CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
Thursday April 10, 2014
7:02 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER 7:02p.m.

II. ROLL CALL Answering Roll Call was Bale, Glahn, Gubrud, Howard, Kostuch, Latham, Sierks, Sokol, Thompson, Waddick, and Chair Heer.

Absent: Zarrin

Late Arrival: Rudnicki

Staff Present: Ross Bintner and Rebecca Foster

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

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

IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes. Member Latham requested VI. F. the second through fourth sentences be deleted and add after the last sentence in the first paragraph "which Member Latham requested to be sent to the Planning Commission as follows." Member Howard requested VII. A. change the word "everyone" to "a majority".

Motion made by Member Thompson and seconded by Member Latham to approve the amended Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Attendance report and roster
C. Workgroup list and minutes

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

V. COMMUNITY COMMENT. Students Rielly and Reem from Edina High School's Project Earth said they'll be attending the April 28th event and talk about the Solar Charging Station project at the high school.

VI. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. City Environmental Considerations Subcommittee. Member Kostuch is waiting to hear back from Eric Roggeman, Assistant Finance Director, on how to implement this in the Capital Improvement Plan.
B. Business Recycling Working Group. This topic was tabled.

Member Rudnicki arrived at 7:13p.m.

- C. Education Outreach Working Group. Ken Bradley, CEO MN Community Solar, told us how to establish Community Solar Gardens in Edina. Anyone can do it. Some qualifying areas are roofs or brownfields the size of 25,000 – 100, 000sq ft. and there needs to be a substation nearby. The lease would be for 25yrs. A person can buy a subscription up to 120% of their power. MN Community Solar will build and develop the project. The solar power goes into the grid and credits are given back to your electric bill. MN Community Solar is responsible to insure the solar array systems and property, operate and maintain the solar array, and monitor the electric output of the system. Member Sierks will explore how the City of Edina could host or lease purchase for Community Solar.
 - i. April 28 event. Member Thompson gave an update on the “What will turn you on” event. There will be door prizes, three free Home Energy Squad visits and announcements on Facebook. Member Sokol said Poll Everywhere will be used for questions and text answers to save paper.

There were 110 people that attended the “More Than Honey” movie in March. The May movie will be “Bag It”. The movie “Chasing Ice” will be replayed by Project Earth and possibly “More Than Honey.”

D. Home Energy Squad Subcommittee. No Update.

E. Local Food Working Group

- i. Chicken and Bees report and recommendation. Member Latham introduced Virginia Kearny (Chicken Keeper) and David Chin (Bee Keeper) two of her working group members and Jim Schedin, City of Eden Prairie Zoning Administrator. The Working Group is looking to implement the Green Step Cities Local Food Best Practice #27 Action #2. Member Latham presented the mission, beekeeping background, objective and benefits and chicken keeping benefits. She presented an example application for beekeeping and nothing for chicken keeping from the City of Eden Prairie. Notification to residents needs to occur for the beekeeping. Five of the six City’s bordering Edina has beekeeping. Chicken keeping will be limited to hens, because they don’t crow. Beekeepers and Chicken Keepers can’t sell honey or eggs due to home occupation ordinances. The subcommittee is looking to propose updates to the Farmers Market ordinance to sell honey and possibly the home occupation ordinance too. Schedin shared that, in Eden Prairie the legal review concluded if a person receives a bee sting from a residential hive the City isn’t liable and noted that it’s also difficult to prove if it’s a wasp or honey bee that caused the sting. Based on the doctrine of suborn immunity Commissioner Latham believes that, the City would not be liable, absent negligence on the City’s part, if the sting comes from the proposed demonstration hive on Braemar Golf Course. Member Latham will make the suggested changes using the Eden Prairie ordinance as an example, bring it back to the May EEC meeting for consideration. If approved, it would then to the Council Work Session in June.

Motion made by Member Thompson and seconded by Member Sierks for Member Thompson to research a Council Advisory on using Fred Richards Golf Course as a second Community Garden. Motion carried unanimously.

- F. Recycling and Solid Waste Working Group. Member Latham gave an update on tracking ordinance for organics purposes, describing a dispute between Hennepin County and Minneapolis.
- G. Student Subcommittee. Member Sokol said she’s been working with Project Earth and the Education & Outreach Working Group with the April 28th event.
- H. Water Quality Working Group. Member Waddick proposed a statement of purpose. Member Waddick asked the City if it’s possible to add “Please make sure the Storm Drains are clean and dispose of it properly” on the Hydrant Flushing notice. She suggested other possible projects.

Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Thompson to approve the water quality working group members and mission. Motion carried unanimously.

- I. PACE Advisory. Member Sierks and Mr. Bintner need to work on the proposed Council Advisory report ahead of the May EEC meeting.

Member Sierks gave an update on the Building Energy Efficiency Subcommittee on how to fund building efficiency.

Motion made by Member Sierks and seconded by Member Gubrud that the EEC recommend the approach of deeper energy efficiency actions, maximizing greenhouse gas reductions, maximizing energy saved and dollars saved, and maximizing effective use of city dollars on existing city buildings. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Member Sierks and seconded by Member Glahn to create a Building Energy Efficiency Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Member Sierks and seconded by Member Heer to add Member Rudnicki to the Building Energy Efficiency Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.

Member Sierks gave an update on the greenhouse gas reduction advisory. There are six core measurements; the city needs to establish more reduction goals, a City Council or staff member should be involved to ask for the quarterly updates, measure and record on Scopes 1 & 2 which is direct emissions and purchase, plans of mitigation and funding the reduction.

Member Sierks is trying to setup a meeting with Mr. Neal on Community Solar and ask which staff member could help.

Motion made by Member Sierks and seconded by Member Gubrud to create a Community Solar Subcommittee with Members Sierks, Thompson and Gubrud. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS. No Comment.

VIII. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS. Chair Heer reviewed the proposed June 3rd City Council Work Session. Possible topics will be Local Food Bee & Chicken Ordinance and Building Energy Efficiency. Member Kostuch will summarize in a report, and bring back to the EEC May meeting, on the retro fitting existing building fleet and capital budget process to the City Council and ask them where's the staff, plan, metrics, budget and follow through on their goals. Member Latham will summarize in a report the organic collection, organize hauling and commercial recycling. Another possible topic could be the City Manager's Purchasing Policy Report.

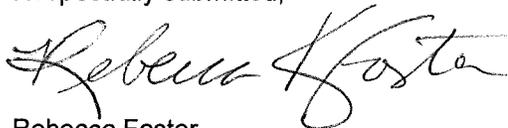
IX. STAFF COMMENTS

- A. City projects update. Member Gubrud would like to receive an update on the France Ave pedestrian project.

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, Chair Heer declared the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Foster". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Rebecca Foster
GIS Administrator