

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Energy and Environment Commission
Edina City Hall Community Room
Wednesday, September 19, 2007, 7:00 P.M.**

Members In attendance:

Surya Iyer, Dianne Plunkett Latham, Ian Nelson, Raymond O'Connell, M. Germana Paterlini, Bill Sierks, Julie Risser, John Owens, Sean Wenham

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Jane Timm

Others Present:

Paul Thompson

1. Welcome & Call to Order

2. Discussion and Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Wenham moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Risser seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Discussion and approval of July 18, 2007, Meeting Minutes

The Commissioners discussed the revisions of the minutes. After discussion Commissioner O'Connell moved to approve the revised minutes. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

Paul Thompson came to thank the commission members for coming to their event in late August. He also discussed upcoming events, including a meeting to discuss the proposed digester on October 6, 2007, in the Linden Hills Neighborhood. Also discussed was the "Step It Up" rally, November 3, 2007. He volunteered to be chair person for scheduling a Step It Up event for Edina. He also told the commission about a meeting he attended regarding sustainable schools. The speaker was from MPCA.

5. Discussion and approval of August 15, 2007, Meeting Minutes

The Commissioners discussed the revisions of the minutes. After discussion Commissioner Wenham moved to approve the revised minutes. Commissioner Risser seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

6. Committee Chair Discussion

1. Education Outreach. A discussion ensued about naming a chair person. After discussion Commissioner O'Connell moved to approve the appointment of

Commissioner Wenham as chair person. Commissioner Plunkett Latham seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

7. Commission Work plan Discussion

1. Climate Change. The Commission discussed four focus areas of the Climate Change Committee. Chair Person Sierks talked about the upcoming October 16, 2007 work session meeting with the City Council at 5 p.m.
2. Recycling and Solid Waste Committee reported their objectives that will be taken to the council members on October 16, 2007 at 5 p.m.
3. Education Outreach chair person will put together the objectives that will be taken to the council members on October 16, 2007 at 5 p.m.

8. Other Business & Comprehensive Plan Update

The Commission discussed the lack of bike racks at the schools, Southdale Mall, and 50th and France.

The Commission discussed the letter in their packet from resident Robert E. McKlveen about Edina's environment and refuse service in the city. Restricting commerce was brought up in the discussion along with the many trucks that go up and down the streets once a week in each neighborhood. Recycling was discussed and clarification on dual sort and single stream was presented.

The Commission discussed the schools being the last large green spaces left in Edina. The Commission discussed School Superintendent, Rick Dressen, being very receptive toward discussions concerning energy and environment with regards to Edina schools.

The Commission discussed another letter in the packet regarding a focus group on land use and water. Commissioner O'Connell volunteered to go to the focus group if Mayor Hovland would like someone to represent him.

The Commission discussed a letter to Mayor Hovland from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding October 3, 2007, *Change a Light Day*. Commissioner Risser will write a letter to Sun Current reminding residents to change at least one inefficient light bulb to one that has earned the ENERGY STAR label.

The next discussion by the Commission was the opportunities that might be available at the 2008 U.S. Women's Open at Interlachen Country Club. The Commissioners agreed that this would be an excellent event to promote energy and environment issues. No formal action.

The Commission discussed possible grant funding opportunities that would be beneficial to the city.

The Commission discussed the possibility of speakers that could talk at committee meetings or come in before the regularly scheduled monthly Energy and Environment Commission meetings.

There was an update on the Comprehensive Plan with discussion.

There was a lengthy discussion by the Commission about signing petitions as a member of the Commission or the Commission as a whole. No formal action.

9. Adjournment

Commissioner O'Connell made a motion to adjourn. Commission Owens seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned shortly after 9:00 PM. The next meeting will be the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. October 17, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. Timm, Secretary