

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Energy and Environment Commission
Edina City Hall Community Room
Tuesday, April 22, 2008, 7:30 P.M.**

Members In Attendance and Roll Call:

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

Staff Present:

Jane Timm
Heather Worthington

Others Present:

John Spanhake, Resident, 5701 Maguire Rd

1. Welcome & Roll Call

2. Discussion and Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Risser seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approval of March 17, 2008, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 17, 2008. Commissioner Paterlini seconded. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

Resident John Spanhake, 5701 Maguire Rd. was in attendance to observe the process.

5. Commission Business

Commissioner Iyer discussed the Energy and Environment Commission's annual budget of \$35,000 from January to December. The typical budget items include City Staff, City Intern, Xcel Energy, printing, membership to ICLEI, travel, and the option of hiring a consultant. If a commissioner wants to spend monies they need to save their receipts. There was a discussion of an appropriate amount that could be spent without approval of the Commission or City Staff. Commissioner Iyer asked that each commissioner check with Heather Worthington if they are planning to spend a significant amount. Commissioner Risser discussed monies needed for the Fourth of July Parade and Energy Fair. Chair Iyer asked that a draft proposal of the 2009 budget from each Work Group Chair be prepared and brought to the May 2008 Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Paterlini discussed the Google Group. This is to be used as an email to all commissioners and staff to communicate and view all postings of seminars and/or information. Chair Iyer made a

request that Commissioners check the Google Group weekly. This has been discussed with City Staff and it has been approved to use.

Assistant City Manager Heather Worthington joined the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Chair Iyer told the Commissioners that Heather Worthington, Assistant City Manager is the “Point of Contact” for the City of Edina and she will direct emails to the appropriate City Staff.

The Commissioners discussed the “Letter to Congress, Global Warming” from Mayor Hovland that was forwarded to the Commission for their response regarding Carbon Credits. After discussion the Commissioners decided the Mayor should get advice from an expert. Carbon Credits are a complex issue and outside the scope of the Commission.

Commissioner Sierks made a motion to recommend to Mayor Hovland that the letter regarding Global Warming be referred to an expert such as David Morris, because Carbon Credits are a very complex issue and outside the scope of the Commission. Commissioner Risser seconded. Motion Carried.

The Commission discussed the tree/water from agenda items #4 and #5 and decided to table the items to the end of the meeting or to another meeting due to time.

6. Work Group Updates

Recycling and Solid Waste Work Group

Commissioner Latham gave a summary of the Recycling and Solid Waste meeting. Due to the length of the extended contract the Work Group decided to recommend an RFP for Recycling.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to do a residential recycling Request For Proposal (RFP). Commissioner O’Connell seconded. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Latham explained to the Commission Source Separated Organics, and that City Code 705.1 needed revisions and a part of the Energy and Environment chapter of the Comprehensive Plan needed revisions.

Commissioner Latham made a motion that the amendments to City Code 705.1 and the chapter of the Comprehensive Plan regarding Source Separated Organics be carried forward to Edina City Council for approval. Commissioner Sierks seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Latham explained to the Commission State Representative Gardner’s bill to define Source Separated Organics.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to support Representative Gardner's bill to define Source Separated Organics with a letter of support to the Edina City Council at the May 6, 2008 meeting. Commissioner O'Connell seconded. Motion Carried.

Education and Outreach Work Group

Commissioner Thompson gave an update on the Energy Fair and the delivery of flyers. He explained David Morris would be interviewed by the Sun Current prior to the Energy Fair. He talked about giveaways and door prizes. Commissioner Risser gave an update on the 13 groups that would have tables at the Energy Fair.

Assistant City Manager, Heather Worthington will get magnetic name tags for the commissioners. She will also get a banner made for both the Energy Fair and 4th of July Parade.

Climate Change Work Group

Commissioner Paterlini discussed the survey and data from the information compiled by Intern, Eric Paul. The survey showed 60% of emissions from buildings, 30% from sewage and water pumps, and 10% from employee commuting and city fleet. The Goal is to reduce use by 25% by 2015. She also discussed what the Climate Change Work Group was focusing on for the Energy Fair. Examples were, ICLEI, and how the Commission was established.

Assistant City Manager, Heather Worthington gave information on the City of Edina Employee Internal Work Group. She informed the Commissioners that all light bulbs had been changed in City Hall.

Chair Iyer expressed thanks on behalf of the Commission to the City of Edina Staff for all of their help with the Energy Fair.

7. Staff Report

There was no Staff Report.

8. Adjournment

Commissioner O'Connell made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Thompson seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. May 21, 2008 in the Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. Timm, Secretary