

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Energy and Environment Commission
Edina City Hall Community Room
Wednesday, August 20, 2008, 7:00 P.M.**

Members In Attendance and Roll Call:

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

Absent:

Hailey Lee

Staff Present:

Heather Worthington, Jane Timm

1. Welcome & Roll Call

2. Discussion and Approval of Agenda after discussion and removal of #11 EEC Draft Report.

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

3. Approval of July 16, 2008, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sierks made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 16, 2008 with amendments. Commissioner Latham seconded. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

Resident Mary Brown, 4370 Brookside Ct #108. She is on the Green Team of the 4 unit condominium complex. They are working on recycling, water consumption, and landscape sustainability. She was at the meeting to find out what the Commission did in the community. Chair Iyer gave her an overview of the Commission and introduced her to the Google Group. She also wanted referrals for speakers from the Commission.

5. Work Group Updates

Climate Change Work Group

No report.

Recycling and Solid Waste Work Group

Commissioner Latham gave an update on the recycling contract. Consultant Dan Krivit recommended a one year extension to Allied Waste. The RFP will be issued at the end of 2008, but no new vendor until 2010. Consultant Krivit also suggested that the work group meet with each hauler about the RFP.

Commissioner Latham told the other commissioners the Waste Management tour that was scheduled in September had been cancelled due to lack of persons attending.

Education and Outreach Work Group

Commissioner Thompson gave an overview of the July 4th parade. The Work Group decided to register early next year so they will have a better spot, and to involve more participants.

Commissioner Risser talked about the October 6, 2008 class to be held from 7-9 p.m. in the Community Center. The 4th of July flyer will be updated and used to advertise the October 6, 2008 class. She asked if a video production crew could film it and play it on channel 16. Ms. Worthington said she would check with the City of Edina's Communication Department and would have a press release prepared.

Commissioner Thompson had a handout from the Sierra Club about a September 17-23, 2008, ICC (International Code Council) meeting.

Commissioner Thompson also shared upcoming events

- "Playing for the Planet" Sunday, August 24, 2008. He asked commissioners to attend.
- International Walk and Bike to School Day, October, 8, 2008.

He also passed around a Greening Our Schools flyer.

6. Commission Business

Commissioner Paterlini gave an update on the Carbon Disclosure Project.

Commissioner Paterlini gave an update on Climate Communities. There is an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant that the commission could apply for.

There was a discussion about an EEC Commissioner joining the Climate Communities. Commissioner Owens showed an interest.

Commissioner Sierks made a motion recommending Commissioner Owens, O'Connell, and Ms. Worthington work together to write a letter of support for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant under the direction of Commissioner Paterlini. Commissioner Risser seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Paterlini will work with Ms. Worthington to get missing data from the utility companies.

Commissioner Paterlini needs garbage collection data to be forwarded to the Climate Change Work Group. It was discussed that the data could be collected on the annual Refuse Hauler License application in the future.

After a discussion by the Commission, it was decided that Climate Change Work Group would follow up with Xcel Energy on Windsource.

Commissioner Risser talked about a Wetlands Policy in the City of Edina. Although there is a DNR policy that covers wetland encroachment it can be overridden because we do not have a wetland policy. Commissioner Lee will contact neighboring cities about their wetland policies.

The Commission discussed starting a Water Quality Work Group. Some discussion included:

- Watershed Districts and their involvement with encroachment.
- Carbon Sinks
- A request for an additional Commissioner
- Starting a new Work Group and then getting additional Commissioner

Commissioner Sierks made a motion to support Commissioner Risser and Lee to begin forming a Wetland Protection Policy. Commissioner Owens seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sierks gave an update on the Energy and Environment Commission engaging with the Edina Chamber of Commerce. He would have more information at the September meeting.

Commissioner Sierks gave an update on the Regional Council of Mayors on sustainability. There are 35 mayors working on an Energy Star Building in each city.

Commissioner Sierks gave a report on a Clean Energy Resource Team (CERT) 3 year grant.

Commissioner Sierks reported on making the Edina Homecoming game “green”, by emphasizing recycling at the game.

The Sustainability and the Natural Step Framework Seminar will be moved to the September 2008 agenda.

8. Staff Report

Ms. Worthington gave an update on the council approved new Public Works facility.

Ms. Worthington gave an update on the MPCA grant.

Commissioner Latham gave an update on the Hwy 100 tree planting project. Park Board member Joe Hulbert applied for grant from MnDot .

9. Adjournment

Commissioner O'Connell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Sierks seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. The next meeting will be the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. September 17, 2008 in the Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. Timm, Secretary