

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Energy and Environment Commission
Edina City Hall Community Room
Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 7:00 P.M.**

Members In Attendance and Roll Call: Bill Sierks, Surya Iyer, Julie Risser, Jeannie Hanson, Steve Christianson, Michael Platteter, Dianne Plunkett Latham, Raymond O'Connell, M. Germana Paterlini, Hailey Lee, Paul Thompson

Absent:

Staff Present: Jane Timm

1. Welcome & Roll Call

2. Discussion and Approval of Agenda.

Commissioner O'Connell made a motion to approve the meeting agenda with an amendment. Commissioner Christianson seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approval of the July 15, 2009 Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Risser made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2009 meeting with amendments. Commissioner Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the July 27, 2009 Special Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Christianson made a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of July 27, 2009. Commissioner Lee seconded. Motion carried.

4. Community Comment

The scheduled speaker, Michael Juras, was not able to attend the meeting due to an illness.

5. Commission Business

A special appreciation for all the hard work at the August 18, 2009 event was given to the Commissioners from Chair Iyer.

There was a discussion about the approval of the Energy and Environment Bylaws.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to approve the Energy and Environment final draft of the bylaws. Commissioner Christianson seconded. Motion carried.

There was a discussion about a proposed letter to the City Council regarding the Drive-Through at 4420 Valley View Road and the amendment of City Code concerning the regulation of Drive-Through facilities. Some key points were:

- Ordinance change vs. approval of a variance at that one location.
- Encouragement to bike and walk to the location.
- Let the City Council know the Commission opposed Drive-Through facilities.

Commissioner O'Connell made a motion to approve a team of four commissioners to re-write the Drive-Through letter to be delivered to the City Council with the approved amendments. Commissioner Christianson seconded. Motion carried.

There was an update from Commissioner Sierks about the Climate Showcase Grant. An application was submitted and a decision would be announced in September 2009. Commission requested that city staff let them know the proposed use of the grant monies.

There was a discussion on an invitation that Mayor Hovland received regarding Solar America Workshop. Commission members did not support attendance for the following reasons:

- Organization was too new.
- Solar Industry development in the City of Edina was not likely.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to not recommend Mayor Hovland's attendance at the Solar America Workshop. Commissioner Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

There was a lengthy discussion about the structure of the working groups and the commission. There were many points of view discussed.

- Each working group define one goal and make an effort to accomplish that goal.
- Decide which projects would be done.
- Meet ICLEI Milestone II.
- Create a Policy and Project Subcommittee.
- Grant application process for commissioners.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to dissolve the Climate Change Working Group. Commissioner Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to form a Renewable Energy Working Group. Commissioner Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Iyer appointed Commissioner Hanson as Chairperson of the Renewable Energy Working Group.

Commissioner Hanson made a motion to publish the “Join Us” postcard in the Sun Current. Commissioner Lee seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to form a Policy & Project Subcommittee. Commissioner Sierks seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Iyer appointed Commissioner Sierks and Commissioner Platteter as Co-Chairs to the Policy and Project Subcommittee.

Commissioner Hanson made a motion to allow herself to apply for the Cynthia Kreig Grant to receive money for trees that would be planted at Pamela Park and to do an algae to oil demonstration project in cooperation with Water Quality Working Group with Park and Recreation Department approval. Commissioner Christianson seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Latham made a motion to put forward to the Park Board a request to plant up to 350 trees. Commissioner Sierks seconded. Motion carried.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner O’Connell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Risser 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. September 16, 2009 in the Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. Timm, Secretary