

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Energy and Environment Commission
Edina City Hall Community Room
Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 7:00 P.M.**

Members In Attendance and Roll Call: Dianne Plunkett Latham, Michael Platteter (arrived 8:30), Bill Sierks, Julie Risser, Paul Thompson, Susan Tucker, Bob Gubrud, M. Germana Paterlini, Karwehn Kata, Alma Pronove

Absent: Surya Iyer

Staff Present: Jane Timm, Heather Worthington

1. Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Latham.

2. Approval of Agenda and Topic Time Allocation

The agenda was approved as written with additions – Turf Management. The Hara presentation was taken off agenda.

3. Approval of August 12, minutes

The August 12, 2010 minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Community Comment

None

5. Hara Software Demonstration rescheduled to October 2010 meeting.

Staff Liason, Heather Worthington announced her resignation from the EEC and the City of Edina. The commissioners expressed their gratitude for all her hard work.

6. Chair Report

Chair Latham asked the commissioners to discuss and approve the amended bylaws.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion to approve the amended bylaws. Commissioner Gubrud seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Latham asked the commissioners to approve the new members of the Working Groups. She also announced the resignation of working group members Ron Rich and Laura Benson.

Chair Latham asked for approval of new Working Group members.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion to approve Mary Jo Straub to the Air & Water Quality Working Group. Commissioner Risser seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve Flora Delaney to the Education and Outreach Working Group. Commissioner Gubrud seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Latham asked the commissioners about residents attending the meeting and if the minutes should reflect the names of each resident attending.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion that if members of the public came to speak at the meeting only then would the minutes reflect their names. Commissioner Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Latham made positive comments about the Farmers Market at Centennial Lakes Park Centrum. She asked for the commissioners to discuss if a recommendation letter be sent to Edina City Council members for an extension of hours (Noon to 7 pm) and a longer season (May – October).

Commissioner Tucker made a motion to send a letter of recommendation to City Council members extending the season of the Farmers Market at Centennial Park Centrum. The recommended season for the Farmers Market was May to October and hours from Noon to 7 p.m. Commissioner Gubrud seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

There was a discussion about an Energy Home Tour for next summer and a video produced through Edina's Communications Department. They will discuss this again at a later meeting.

7. Education and Outreach Working Group Report

Commissioner Thompson gave an update on the Energy Champion program. Chair Latham will send a copy to John Henry, Energy Champion and to Jennifer Bennerotte for publishing. The commission made a decision to drop the Energy Champion Program at this time.

An email was sent to Commissioner Thompson from Sarah Zarrin of Edina Go Green about using their name "Edina Go Green". The decision was made that Commissioner Thompson would speak to Sarah Zarrin and the group. He would report back at October meeting.

Commissioner Thompson gave information about 10-10-10 celebration at Mill Ruins Park in Minneapolis.

8. Residential Energy Project

Commissioner Platteter told the commission about a presentation he did at the Morningside Rotary about the HES, EEC and GreenStep. He offered the use of this presentation to any commissioner to use in the future.

Commissioner Gubrud gave an update on the October 9, 2010 at Edina's Day of Service. They are looking for four homes to do pro bono work by the Home Energy Squad (HES) installers that day.

9. Recycling and Solid Waste Report

Chair Latham gave an update on the residential compost letter. The council approved the letter and it was forwarded to the MPCA. Chair Latham and Solvei Wilmot will attend meeting in November.

Chair Latham gave an update on the Art Recycling Containers at 50th and France.

Chair Latham gave an update on a first draft updating the Recycling ordinances they are working on in the working group.

10. Air & Water Quality Working Group Report

Commissioner Tucker gave an update on a Water Summit at the Minnesota Arboretum that she attended. It was a two day program and she asked for reimbursement of \$100.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion to approve \$100 tuition for the Water Summit at the Minnesota Arboretum that she attended. Commissioner Gubrud seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Tucker asked for approval to purchase 30 Water Quality Manuals to be handed out at the Nemo Workshop November 8, 2010.

Commissioner Tucker made a motion to approve \$500 to purchase Water Quality Manuals for the Nemo Workshop. Commissioner Sierks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Tucker gave a short presentation on Blue Star assessment and proposed it be added to Substep #1 to Best Practice #17 of GreenStep.

Commissioner Risser made a motion to add Blue Star Assessment to substep #1, Best Practice #17 of the GreenStep Program. Commissioner Sierks seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Alternative Energy Working Group

Commissioner Gubrud gave an update on the Public/Private Wind Turbine Project by the Olsen Energy Corporation.

12. GreenStep

Chair Latham gave a few updates of the GreenSteps Program and asked that it be approved by the EEC and forwarded to Edina City Council for approval.

Commissioner Platteter made a motion to approve the GreenStep Cities Pilot Report and recommended the adoption of the best practices and continued involvement in the GreenStep Cities Program to be submitted for approval to the Edina City Council. Commissioner Gubrud seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Budget

Staff Liason Heather Worthington reminded the commissioners that the Hara software was included in the Edina budget for next year.

Commissioner Paterlini went over the draft budget included in the monthly packet. The commissioners discussed separating GreenStep items from regular budget items. Commissioner Paterlini was instructed to work on a 5 year budget plan to present to the City Council at a work session.

14. Future Meetings

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gubrud seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. The next meeting will be the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. October 14, 2010 at Edina City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. Timm, Deputy City Clerk