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3. 3. Introduction Of Environmental Commission Members And City Staff

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[3. INTRODUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEMBERS.PDF](#)

4. 4. 2021.01.25 ENV Meeting Minutes

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5. 5A. Elections Of Officers

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A. 5B. Adopt 2021 Work Plan

Documents:

[5B. ADOPT 2021 WORK PLAN.PDF](#)

6. 6A. Review And Recommend Council Approval Of Faribault Climate Adaption Plan

Documents:

[6A. RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN.PDF](#)

A. 6B. Recommend Council Approval For The City To Apply To Host A Minnesota GreenCorps Member

Documents:

[6B. RECOMMEND APPLICATION TO HOST A GREENCORPS MEMBER.PDF](#)



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA

Minn. Stat. § 13D.021 provides that a meeting of a public body may be conducted via telephone or other electronic means if meeting in a public location is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or declared emergency. Due to the declared health pandemic, this Environmental Commission meeting will be held through electronic means rather than in-person.

You may participate in this meeting by joining the following videoconference or by calling the following telephone number at the scheduled date and time of the meeting:

1. *Via Videoconference:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82383909067?pwd=cm80NFRoeEJraWVYR2doR1VvdVZmUT09> **Meeting ID:** 823 8390 9067 **Passcode:** 629249

(Note: Your computer should have a camera and a microphone. However, if you do not have a microphone and camera, you can still view the meeting on your computer and participate in the conversation via a telephone.

2. **Via Telephone:** 1-312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 823 8390 9067 **Passcode:** 629249

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021

6:00 PM

1. Call to Order / Roll Call
2. Meeting Protocols
3. Introduction of Environmental Commission Members and City Staff
4. Approve January 25, 2021 Minutes
5. Annual Meeting Actions
 - A. Election of Officers
 - B. Adopt 2021 Work Plan
6. Items for Discussion
 - A. Review and Recommend Council Approval of Faribault Climate Adaptation Plan
 - B. Recommend Council Approval for the City to Apply to Host a Minnesota GreenCorps Member
7. Routine Business
 - A. Announcements and Updates

- Submitted grant application for electric vehicle charging station.
- Submitted idea brief to University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnership to promote equity in the City's environmental planning efforts.
- Held kick-off meeting for the Faribault/Northfield/Rice County Solar Group Buy Program.
- Reschedule the Environmental Commission/City Council work session.

B. Identify Agenda Items for March 22, 2021 Meeting

- Property Maintenance and Natural Landscaping Ordinance

8. Adjourn

Please contact the Department of Community and Economic Development at 507-334-0100 if you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting.



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission
THROUGH: Deanna Kuennen, Community and Economic Development Director
FROM: David Wanberg, City Planner
MEETING DATE: February 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Meeting Protocols

The City strives to accommodate all who wish to participate in City meetings. Each person has his or her own communication needs and preferences. All meeting participants have shared responsibilities to ensure communication between all participants.

Commissioner Wasilowski is deaf. He has arranged to have an interpreter and Video Relay Service assist him and Commission members in conducting the Environmental Commission meetings. There are many ways to help ensure communication. The following protocols may help deaf or hard of hearing individuals participate in virtual City meetings:

- Ensure that all participants join the virtual meeting displaying their first and last names.
- Raise your hand or state your name and ask the chair to recognize you by name before you speak.
- State your name and speak clearly at a pace that an interpreter can follow. Pause as needed.
- Ensure that only one person speaks at a time.

Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may choose to participate in virtual City meetings as follows:

- Arrange for a Video Relay Service (VRS) or a Video Remote Interpreter (VRI) to participate in the meeting.

- An interpreter can sign the meeting to a deaf or hard of hearing individual in real-time using the VRS or VRI.
- A deaf or hard of hearing individual can sign his or her statements to an interpreter. The interpreter can then relay the individual's comments to others in the meeting.

We will work together to ensure our meetings are accessible to all. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact the City.



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission

THROUGH: Deanna Kuennen, Community and Economic Development
Director

FROM: David Wanberg, City Planner

MEETING DATE: February 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Introduction of Environmental Commission Members

The City is pleased to announce the appointments of Claudia Garcia and Sonny Wasilowski to the Environmental Commission. All Commission members will be asked to provide a one-minute introduction of who they are and what they hope to accomplish on the Environmental Commission. These introductions will help Commissions get to know each other, but the introductions may also help provide insight into the election of officers, which will happen later in this meeting.



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Minn. Stat. § 13D.021 provides that a meeting of a public body may be conducted via telephone or other electronic means if meeting in a public location is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or declared emergency. Due to the declared health pandemic, this meeting of the Environmental Commission held this meeting through electronic means, rather than in-person.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021

6:00 PM

1. Call to Order / Roll Call.

Chair, Roger Steinkamp called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Present: Commissioner Ackman, Commissioner Boevers, Commissioner Diessner, Commissioner Huston, Commissioner Nesvold and Chair Steinkamp.

Absent: Commissioner Behrens

2. Approve December 28, 2020 Minutes.

A motion was made by Nesvold and seconded by Huston to approve the December 28, 2020 meeting minutes as written.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Commissioner Ackman, Commissioner Boevers, Commissioner Diessner, Commissioner Huston, Commissioner Nesvold and Chair Steinkamp.

Nay: None

Motion carried on a 6/0 vote.

3. Items of Discussion – Review 2021 Work Plan and Prepare for Meeting with City Council
 - A. Finalize Concise Work Plan to Review with City Council in February
 - B. Brief Overview of the Status of the Environmental Commission Handbook and Detailed Work Plan
 - C. Identify Discussion Items for Joint City Council and Environmental Commission Meeting in February.

After a short discussion, the members agreed that the concise plan was sufficient to submit to the council for the joint committee meeting tentatively set for February 16th. Staff advised that they will only have a short time to present what they would like to make recommendations on and it was advised not to present a power point and to just be prepared for a short discussion.

4. Finalize Comments on the Draft Climate Adaptation Plan

Members felt that that plan was very good. Wanberg did indicate that the author may be willing to make a presentation on the Plan and that the next step needs to be getting it out to the public.

5. Overview of Solar Group Buy Program and Involvement of Interested Environmental Commission Members on an Advisory Committee.

Wanberg stated that he is looking for an advisory committee to get community outreach to see if people might be interested. Possibly hold educational meetings. Wanberg wanted to meet later this week and Steinkamp and Diessner said they might be interested.

6. Feedback on Idea Brief for U of M Regional Sustainability Development Partnership

Wanberg was approached by surrounding communities to collaborate on this area. Wanberg made the suggestion of using agriculture, food and possibly music to pull people together. He stated communities such as Rochester, Northfield and Winona are participating. This potential plan would be due by February 11th. Steinkamp, Nesvold and Diessner stated they might be interested in that.

7. Routine Business (verbal update – no reports)

A. Announcements and Updates

- City Council Appointment of New Environmental Commission Members – January 26th
- Joint Council/Environmental Commission Introductions and Work Session – Tentatively Scheduled for February 16
- Environmental Commission Annual Meeting including Election of Chair and Vice-Chair – February 22
- Tentative Zoom Meeting with City Attorney and Potentially Other Commissions to Review Meeting Protocols – February
- Status of Potential Solar Array at the City Water Plant and the Status of the City's Community Solar Garden Subscriptions
- Status of the Installation of Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Grant Application for Additional Charging Stations
- Upcoming Webinars
- Announcements and Updates from Commissioners

Wanberg stated that council will review two application for the ENV Commission

presented by Claudia Garcia and Sonny Woslowski who may be approved to serve on the board by next meeting. The next meeting will be on 2/22 and there will be an election of officers at that meeting. He stated that in the past the lawyers have met with the various boards to discuss items such as the Open Meeting Laws and that potential meeting is in the process of being set up. As for the solar array at the water plant, the Legislature extended the tax credits another two years and so the pressure is off to get that in right away. There are 3 electrical charging stations to be put in the parking lot where the old Knight's of Columbus was; one of which will be a rapid charger. These are being paid for by a grant. The City is applying for another grant to possibly get one at City Hall. Wanberg updated everyone on some potential webinars coming up: the Greenstep Cities next webinar will be on soil health and is set for February 17. There is another on Urban Trees on 4/21 and I think he said on pollinators on 5/19. There are also Tree City USA webinars on 2/10, 2/17 and 2/24. Wanberg will get this information on our website soon.

- B. Identify Agenda Items for February 22 Meeting (verbal update – no reports)
- Introduction of New Environmental Commission Members
 - Finalize Recommendation on Natural Landscaping Ordinance Amendments
 - Annual Meeting – Election of Officers

Wanberg stated that the agenda will consist of new members, natural landscape ordinance; annual meeting and election of officers for 2/22.

- C. Recognition and Thanks for Chuck Ackman and Tom Boevers' Service on the Environmental Commission.

This is Ackman and Boevers' last meeting and everyone was grateful that they served on the board.

8. Adjournment (majority vote by roll call)

A motion was made by Ackman and seconded by Boevers to adjourn at 7:06.

Aye: Commissioner Ackman, Commissioner Boevers, Commissioner Diessner, Commissioner Nesvold and Chair Steinkamp.

Nay: None

Motion carried on a 6/0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 26, 2021

By: _____
Kari Casper, Recording Secretary



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission

THROUGH: Deanna Kuennen, Community and Economic Development
Director

FROM: David Wanberg, City Planner

MEETING DATE: February 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Election of Officers

Every year, the Environmental Commission must elect (or re-elect) a chair and vice-chair. Roger Steinkamp has served as chair of the Environmental Commission since the first meeting of the Commission held in April of 2020. Dan Behrens has served as vice-chair. There are no term limits for how long a chair or vice-chair can serve in the Environmental Commission. Some commissions choose to rotate leadership roles; others will re-elect current chairs and/or vice-chairs. Commission members should discuss how the Commission wishes to handle the leadership roles. The Commission should then elect or re-elect a chair and vice-chair.



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission
THROUGH: Deanna Kuennen, Community & Economic Development Director
FROM: David Wanberg, City Planner
MEETING DATE: February 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Adopt 2021 Work Plan

At its last meeting, the Environmental Commission indicated support for the attached 2021 work plan. The Commission should view the work plan as a general guide. The Commission can update the work plan based on Council direction and other issues and opportunities that may arise during 2021.

The Environmental Commission should briefly review the work plan with the new Commission members and then adopt the work plan.

Attachments:

- 2021 Environmental Commission Work Plan

2021 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WORK PLAN

Subject to review and comment from the Faribault City Council

The following outlines actions the Environmental Commission could take in 2021. The Environmental Commission will coordinate with the City Council to refine and prioritize the actions.

- 1. Promote Public Awareness and Understanding of Environmental Issues and Opportunities.** Possible actions by the Environmental Commission include the following:
 - A. Coordinate with others to help organize and/or promote environmental events, such as Earth Day events and pollinator seminars.
 - B. Publicize environmental issues and opportunities through various means, including the City's website, utility bill inserts, articles in the Buckham Bulletin, and webinars.
 - C. Encourage broad participation in environmental issues by coordinating with youth and others who are underrepresented in the City's environmental issues. Coordinate with other cities in southeast Minnesota to engage typically underrepresented groups in environmental planning.
 - D. Coordinate with others to help organize and/or promote community service efforts related to the environment, such as control of noxious weeds and trash clean-up.

- 2. Recommend Ordinance Amendments related to the Environment.**
Suggested ordinance amendments include the following:
 - A. Recommend amendments to the natural landscaping and yard maintenance ordinances.
 - B. Recommend a tree preservation and replacement ordinance.
 - C. Prepare other ordinance amendments as directed by the City Council.

- 3. Review and Recommend Approval of Plans related to the Environment.**
 - A. Recommend approval of Faribault's Climate Adaptation Plan.
 - B. Provide direction on environmental strategies related to Journey to 2040 plans.
 - C. Prepare a proposal to update the City's Natural Resources Plan in 2022.
 - D. Review and provide comments on environmental reviews (EAWs and AUARs) if the need arises.

- 4. Review City progress on GreenStep Cities and Xcel's Partners in Energy Program and implement actions as feasible.**



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission
THROUGH: Deanna Kuennen, Community & Economic Development Director
FROM: David Wanberg, City Planner
MEETING DATE: February 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Recommendation of Climate Adaptation Plan

As the Environmental Commission is aware, a committee has been working on a Climate Adaptation Plan for Faribault. The draft plan was completed in December 2020. Although the Commission has already had the opportunity to review and comment on the draft plan, the City Planner will provide an additional overview of the plan at this meeting. The Commission will then be asked to recommend that the City Council approve the plan.

The Climate Adaptation Plan can be found at the following link:

<https://www.ci.faribault.mn.us/DocumentCenter/View/6437/Faribault-Climate-Adaptation-Plan-120620>



Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO: Environmental Commission
THROUGH: Deanna Kuennen, Community & Economic Development Director
FROM: David Wanberg, City Planner
MEETING DATE: February 22, 2021
SUBJECT: Recommend Requesting a GreenCorps Member

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has a GreenCorps program that offers cities the services of a GreenCorps member for an 11-month period. The GreenCorps member provides full-time services to the community with no direct costs to the community.

This is a highly competitive program. Most cities that apply for a GreenCorps member will not be awarded a member. Nevertheless, the City Planner recommends that the Environmental Commission discuss possible tasks that a GreenCorps member could conduct in Faribault. The Planner is also requesting that the Environmental Commission recommend to the City Council that the City apply to host a GreenCorps member.

The following is a link to the GreenCorps program and the application process:

[Apply now - MN GreenCorps host sites | GreenCorps | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency \(state.mn.us\)](#)

The City Planner will provide an overview of the program to the Environmental Commission.