

# City of White Bear Lake Environmental Advisory Commission

## MINUTES

Date: April 21, 2021	Time: 6:30pm	Location: WBL City Hall
COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	Sheryl Bolstad, Chris Greene, Bonnie Greenleaf, Rick Johnston, Gary Schroeher (Chair); Robert Winkler	
COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT	Valeria Diaz, Sage Durdle	
STAFF PRESENT	Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist	
VISITORS	None	
NOTETAKER	Connie Taillon	

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The commission members reviewed the agenda and had no changes. Staff added SWPPP Annual Public Meeting to item 7a, staff updates. Commissioner Bolstad moved, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, to approve the agenda as amended.

#### Roll call vote:

Bolstad: Aye  
Greene: Aye  
Greenleaf: Aye  
Johnston: Aye  
Schroeher: Aye  
Winkler: Aye  
Diaz: Absent  
Durdle: Absent

Motion carried.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### a) March 17, 2021 regular meeting

The commission members reviewed the March 17, 2021 draft minutes and had the following changes: Item 5b bag ban: ninth sentence, change 'stateed' to 'stated', and delete the 8<sup>th</sup> line 'Commissioner Bolstad noted that the statement of need should include information about cost savings for businesses.' Commissioner Greenleaf moved, seconded by Commissioner Greene, to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting as amended.

#### Roll call vote:

Bolstad: Aye  
Greene: Aye  
Greenleaf: Aye  
Johnston: Aye  
Schroeher: Aye  
Winkler: Aye  
Diaz: Absent  
Durdle: Absent

Motion carried.

**4. VISITORS & PRESENTATIONS**

None

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a) 2021 budget

Taillon stated that she will order the two feather flags and a rain barrel for the Expo.

b) 2021 Work Plan

- Plastic bag ban

Commission members reviewed the draft statement of need and provided comments. Commissioner Johnston suggested adding more language regarding the need to ban or charge for single use bags. Commissioner Greenleaf will revise the statement of need and bring to the May meeting for further discussion. Commission members discussed next steps in the process, such as presenting information to City Council. Commissioner Johnston suggested creating a presentation, then have staff review and provide feedback. Commission members also discussed renaming this initiative because the goal is to implement a fee for single-use bags, not a ban.

- Downtown area recycling

Taillon reported that she emailed the County again and is waiting to hear back from them regarding a grant application.

c) 2021 Expo exhibitors

Commission members discussed sending invites to Expo exhibitors this month, and prioritized those organizations to contact first. Due to a shortage of tents, the lower priority, newer exhibitors on the list will only be contacted if there are still tents available or will be asked to bring their own tent if they want to attend. Commissioner Bolstad will email standard invitation language to the commission members for their use.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**7. DISCUSSION**

a) Staff updates

- Spring stormwater projects

Taillon summarized the stormwater projects that will be completed this year, including shoreline riprap at Matoska Park, pretreatment structures at the Matoska Parking lot, raingardens at the Lakewood Hills parking lot, and the continuation of the homeowner curb cut raingarden program as part of the City's street renovation projects.

- East Goose Lake Community Engagement

Taillon stated that the East Goose Lake web hub is live and will be updated with additional FAQ responses and meeting notifications. Barr Engineering will be presenting information on shallow lakes at the May City Council meetings. Taillon also mentioned that Trane will be presenting to Council on energy efficiency at a future Council meeting. She will send email reminders to the commission members when the meeting dates are scheduled.

- MS4 Permit Application

Taillon mentioned that the MS4 permit application was submitted to the MPCA on April 15th. Once the MPCA deems the application complete, it will be posted on the MPCA website for a 30-day public review period. After the public review period, the City will revise the application based on any public comments. The MPCA will then reissue the City's permit for the next 5-year permit cycle. The City will have 12 months after the permit is reissued to be in compliance with new permit requirements.

- Mayor's water conservation challenge  
Taillon announced that the Mayor's national water conservation challenge is the entire month of April. Commission members can go on line to take the water conservation pledge.
- SWPPP Annual Public Meeting  
Taillon noted that she will be presenting on 2020 SWPPP activities at the April 27, 2021 Council meeting and invited commission members to attend. She will send a remainder email to Commission Members prior to the meeting.

b) Commission member updates

Chair Schroeher reported on Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD) projects through his role on the Citizens Advisory Committee. Many of the District's projects deal with flooding issues. RWMWD has an alum treatment at the creek along Highway 61, and redeveloped a creek that flows to Phalen and Snail Lake. Chair Schroeher also noted that Buckthorn is being removed at the corner of Orchard and White Bear Avenue.

c) Do-outs

New do-out items for April 21, 2021 include:

- Commissioner's Greenleaf to edit statement of need based on comments provided
- All to email an Expo invite to exhibitors
- Staff to send Council dates for SWPPP Public Meeting to EAC
- Staff to email Council dates for Trane Council presentation to EAC

d) May agenda

Include bag ban statement of need, Environmental Resource Expo on the May agenda.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Johnston moved, seconded by Commissioner Greenleaf to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Roll call vote:

Bolstad: Aye

Greene: Aye

Greenleaf: Aye

Johnston: Aye

Schroeher: Aye

Winkler: Aye

Diaz: Absent

Durdle: Absent

Motion carried.