

City of White Bear Lake Environmental Advisory Commission

MINUTES

Date: July 21, 2021	Time: 6:30pm	Location: WBL City Hall
COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT	Sheryl Bolstad, Chris Greene, Bonnie Greenleaf, Rick Johnston, Robert Winkler	
COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT	Gary Schroeher (Chair), 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 6:34pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The commission members reviewed the agenda and had no changes. Commissioner Johnston moved, seconded by Commissioner Greene, to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) June 16, 2021 regular meeting

The commission members reviewed the June 16, 2021 draft minutes and had no changes. Commissioner Greenleaf moved, seconded by Commissioner Bolstad, to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2021 meeting as presented.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

4. VISITORS & PRESENTATIONS

None

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) 2021 budget

Commission members discussed purchasing a rain barrel to give away at the Expo. Staff will check with VLAWMO to see if they are bringing a rain barrel to the Expo. If not, the commission members directed staff to purchase a rain barrel.

b) 2021 Work Plan

Commissioner Greenleaf stated that she revised the statement of need since the last commission meeting to include language from the Ramsey County solid waste plan and the 'Beyond the Bag' challenge. Commission members reviewed the revised statement of need and suggested deleting the sentence referencing 'circular accelerator' since it is unclear what that means, and to add an exception for takeout food. Commissioners discussed next steps for a presentation to City Council in November. Commissioners Greene, Greenleaf, and Bolstad offered to take the lead on creating a PowerPoint presentation.

c) 2021 Environmental Resources Expo

Commission members discussed exhibits and giveaways for the EAC table. Chair Schroeder volunteered to create a recycling and plastic bag display board that includes a 'guess the number of plastic bags' game to win a native seed pack. Staff will provide a photo of the food scraps dumpster and recycle smart graphic to include on the display board. Commissioner Greenleaf will bring the native seed packs as a giveaway for the plastic bag game, Commissioner Winkler will create a winter salt exhibit, staff will bring kitchen compost bins to give away, and Commissioner Greene will create a fact sheet about lawn equipment pollution and will bring jugs filled with sand to hold down the tents. Staff will email commissioner members the exhibitor map and instructions to send to exhibitors a few days before the event. Staff will also bring extra EAC shirts to the Expo.

6. NEW BUSINESS

None

7. DISCUSSION

a) Staff updates

- Commission member reappointments

Staff announced that Commissioners Greenleaf, Winkler, and Johnston have accepted reappointment to the Environmental Advisory Commission for another three year term. Commissioner Johnston expressed concern about missing meetings when he travels. Commissioner's agreed to conduct the meetings via Zoom when a commission member is out of town. Commission members discussed the student delegates and asked staff to email them to determine their interest in continuing on the commission.

- East Goose ALM community meeting – August 3, 2021

Staff invited the Environmental Advisory Commission to the East Goose ALM community meeting which will take place in the Public Safety Building training room on August 3, 2021 at 6:30pm. There will be a presentation on shallow lakes and the results of the community survey and an opportunity for public comment. Staff will email the commissioners a map of the Public Safety training room.

- RCWD CAC Raingarden Tour – August 11, 2021

Staff announced that the Rice Creek Watershed District Citizens Advisory Committee will hold their annual field trip in White Bear Lake on August 11th to visit the curb cut raingardens and rip rap project at the dog beach. Environmental Advisory Commission members are invited to attend.

b) Commission member updates

None

c) Do-outs

New do-out items for July 22, 2021 include:

- Commissioner's Greene, Bolstad, and Greenleaf to start working on Bring Your Own Bag PowerPoint presentation to Council
- Commission members and staff to bring tokens to give to the scouts
- Commissioner Greene to create poster about the advantages of electric lawn equipment
- Commissioner Greene to bring jugs of sand and rope to expo
- Commissioner Winkler to contact Nick at VLAWMO about salt and lawn clipping educational materials for the Environmental Expo.
- Commissioner Bolstad will contact Chair Schroeher regarding revisions to plastic bag poster
- Commissioner's and staff to email exhibitor location map to exhibitors
- Staff to create exhibitor map and email to EAC
- Staff to email photo of organics dumpster and 'what to recycle' graphic to Commissioner Bolstad
- Staff to bring EAC shirts to the Expo
- Staff to send map of Public Safety training room to commissioners

d) September agenda

Include the Bring Your Own Bag initiative and volunteer recognition dinner presentation ideas on the September agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Greenleaf moved, seconded by Commissioner Greene to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 pm.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.