



**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022
6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Chair Gary Schroeher called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Greenleaf, Gary Schroeher (Chair), Rick Johnston

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sheryl Bolstad, Chris Greene

STAFF PRESENT: Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist

VISITORS PRESENT: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The commission members reviewed the agenda and had no changes.

It was moved by member **Greenleaf** seconded by member **Johnston**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 3:0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of April 20, 2022

The commission members discussed waiting to approve the April meeting minutes until the June meeting, when all members from the April meeting plan to be in attendance.

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Draft presentation to Council

The commission members discussed the changes that were made to each slide at the April meeting. Taillon will email the latest PowerPoint to Chair Schroeher and a pdf to the other members. Chair Schroeher will fill in missing details on some of the slides and present the revised presentation at the June meeting. The commission members expressed interest in inviting the Parks Foreman to a future meeting to discuss pollinator initiatives in the parks. Taillon will extend an invite to the Parks Foreman.

B. Draft 2022 Work Plan

The commission members discussed next steps towards finalizing the 2022 work plan. It was decided that all commission members should finish adding information for their assigned draft work plan goal in the Google Document for discussion at the June

meeting. The information needed for the goal(s) assigned to each member includes a problem statement, listing possible results, and defining steps to achieve the goal.

C. Environmental Resources Expo

The commission members reviewed the latest Expo exhibitor spreadsheet. Taillon stated that NE Metro Climate Action will be in attendance, and is waiting to hear back from Pollinator Friendly Alliance and VLAWMO. She mentioned that Ramsey County is interested in exhibiting at the Expo to gather input on the future Otter Lake Road project. The members questioned the environmental benefit, and Taillon clarified that the County requested to be next to VLAWMO so they can help promote the VLAWMO cost share grant for residents who live along Otter Lake Road. The members are okay with inviting the County as long as there is an environmental theme and an interactive display. The commission members will continue to invite their respective exhibitors. Chair Schroeher offered to bring the recycling display again this year for the EAC table. The commission members discussed how they should give away the native plant seed packets, and they will continue the discussion at the June meeting. Taillon stated that she will buy additional canopy tents and email the updated Expo spreadsheet to all commission members after the meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled

7. DISCUSSION

A. Staff updates

- RWMWD grant for Lakewood Hills Raingarden
Taillon stated that she will provide an update on the RWMWD grant at the June meeting.
- VLAWMO grant for Rotary Park planting
Taillon stated that she will provide an update on the VLAWMO grant at the June meeting.

B. Commission member updates

Chair Schroeher stated that he worked with the Ramsey County solid waste group along with other volunteer recycling ambassadors to conduct a food waste audit. The purpose of the audit was to determine the amount of contamination and uneaten food contained in several of the County's food scrap dumpsters from Summit Hill and Highland Park. They found approximately 6.5% by weight of uneaten food and 0.8% by weight of contamination, such as plastic bags and other non-compostable items.

Chair Schroeher noted that the City of Redwing hosted Earth Week this spring, which included activities, programs, and challenges throughout the week.

C. Do-outs

New do-out items for May 18, 2022 include:

- Taillon to invite Parks Foreman to future meeting
- Taillon to email revised presentation to Chair Schroeher and pdf to other members
- Taillon to email Expo spreadsheet to members
- Taillon to purchase tents for Expo
- Chair Schroeher to add text to the presentation slides
- Commission members to enter work plan information into Google document
- Chair Schroeher to bring recycling display to Expo
- Members to invite exhibitors to Expo

D. June agenda

Include City Manager and Prairie City USA under visitors; draft presentation, 2022 work plan and Expo spreadsheet under old business; RWMWD grant for Lakewood Hills Raingarden and VLAWMO grant for Rotary Park planting under staff updates.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, it was moved by member **Greenleaf** seconded by member **Johnston** to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Motion carried, 3:0