



**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023
6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Chair Schroeher called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sheryl Bolstad, Chris Frye, Chris Greene, Bonnie Greenleaf, Rick Johnston (Vice Chair), Jeff Luxford, Gary Schroeher (Chair)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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 **Johnston** seconded by member **Greene**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 7:0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Commission meeting on June 21, 2023.

The commission members reviewed the draft June 21, 2023 meeting minutes and had no changes.

It was moved by member **Greenleaf** seconded by member **Bolstad**, to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2023 meeting as presented.

Motion carried, 7:0.

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Environmental Resources Expo

The members reviewed the exhibitor list. Member Greenleaf stated that the Master Gardeners will be in attendance. Member Bolstad mentioned that she will bring an electric lawn mower, and Chair Schroeher will bring an electric weed whip to display. Member Greene reported that 4 electric cars will be there and currently 1 scout and 2

adults will help with setup and take down. The members discussed sending a reminder email to all exhibitors about the event and what will be provided. Member Johnston stated that he could bring folding chairs. Taillon will draft a reminder email to share with the commission members that includes exhibitor maps and states one 8 foot table, one canopy, and one chair will be provided. If an exhibitor wants more than one chair, they will need to bring their own. Each commission member can forward the reminder email to their respective exhibitor contacts.

Member Johnston asked if the commission members had any comments on the recycling game that he created for the Expo. The commission members stated that the game looked great and didn't have any changes. A seed packet will be given to each person who participates in the game. Taillon offered to laminate the game pieces.

Member Luxford left the meeting at 7:00pm

Chair Schroeher offered to create a sign-up sheet for buckthorn removal volunteers. Taillon will bring a clip board for the sign-up sheet.

Taillon mentioned that a shirt order will not be ready in time for the Expo, but she will bring the clothing catalog to the August meeting.

Member Bolstad suggested that all commission members should visit each exhibit table during the Expo and thank them for attending.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. None

7. DISCUSSION

A. Staff reports

For the sake of time, Taillon stated that she will hold off on updates until the August meeting.

B. Commission member updates

Member Greenleaf noted that Nick and Lauren from the Vadnais Lake Area water Management Organization gave a presentation at her church about the adopt a drain program, pollinator gardens, and reducing lawns. They brought an aerial photo of the church property to show where the stormwater flows. Twenty eight people were in attendance.

Member Greenleaf reported that she and a Parks Commission member visited Stellmacher Park and Ramaley Park. She will provide a report at the August meeting.

Chair Schroeher stated that he visited Lakewood Hills Park and West Park with a Park Commission member Davis. Member Johnston joined them at West Park. Chair

Schroeher created a 3 page document with photos that summarizes their findings. Included in this report is a summary of Parks Commission member Belisle's site visit to Lakeview, Ebba and Hidden Hollow. Chair Schroeher mentioned that they also looked at the recycling and trash situation at West Park, which is also summarized in the report.

Member Greene reported that he visited Vets Park, Spruce Park, and Bossard Park. He stated that at Bossard Park there are a lot of options to convert weedy areas to prairie, including the access road to the north. He also stated that he did not see trash or recycling containers near the playground at Bossard.

Member Frye stated that he will be visiting his assigned parks tomorrow.

C. Do-outs

New do-out items for July 19, 2023 include:

- Chair Schroeher to bring an electric weed whip to the Expo
- Chair Schroeher to create a volunteer sign-up sheet
- Member Bolstad to bring an electric lawn mower to the Expo
- Members to send reminder emails to Expo exhibitors
- Member Johnston to bring folding chairs to the Expo
- Members to share park visit reports at the August meeting
- Taillon to laminate recycling game pieces
- Taillon to draft Expo reminder email and forward to all members
- Taillon to bring a clip board to the Expo
- Taillon to bring apparel catalog to the August meeting

D. August agenda

Commission members discussed the August agenda and asked Taillon to add Environmental Resources Expo recap, parks visits, and polo shirt discussion to the August agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, it was moved by member **Bolstad** seconded by member **Greene** to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Motion carried, 6:0