

# City of White Bear Lake Environmental Advisory Commission

## MINUTES

Date: February 20, 2019	Time: 6:30pm	Location: WBL City Hall
<b>COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Sheryl Bolstad, Chris Greene, Bonnie Greenleaf, Rick Johnston, Gary Schroeber (Chair), June Sinnett	
<b>COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Robert Winkler	
<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>	Connie Taillon, Environmental Specialist	
<b>VISITORS</b>	None	
<b>NOTETAKER</b>	Connie Taillon	

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:51 pm.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The commission members reviewed the agenda and added item 6c. Rush Line. Commissioner Greenleaf moved, seconded by Commissioner Bolstad, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried, vote 5/0.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### a) January 16, 2019 regular meeting

The commission members reviewed the January 16, 2019 draft minutes and had the following change: remove 'potentially associated with the former drycleaner' in item 7b, staff updates. Commissioner Greenleaf moved, seconded by Commissioner Sinnett, to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2018 meeting as amended. Motion carried, vote 5/0.

### 4. VISITORS & PRESENTATIONS

None

### 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### a) Adopt a Drain program

Staff reported that the Watershed Partners/Adopt a Drain membership request is scheduled for discussion and approval at the March 12, 2019 City Council meeting. The commission member's previous motion supporting the program will be included in the memo to Council. Chair Schroeber reported that he went on the Adopt a Drain website and the map of stormdrains has not been posted yet. Staff stated that the website is expected to be live by the beginning of April.

*Commission member arrived at 7:25pm*

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

#### a) 2019 Environmental Resources Expo

Commissioner Sinnett reported that the Ramsey County Master Gardeners plan to attend the Environmental Resources Expo again this year. She would like to invite a turf grass specialist from the U of M to an upcoming commission meeting and possibly have them table at the Expo. Staff stated that one of Nate from the Engineering Department is invited to the March meeting to discuss 2019 street reconstruction projects. Commissioner Sinnett will invite the turf specialist to the April commission meeting.

b) Spring newsletter – environmental topics

Staff asked the commission members what topics they would like to include in the spring newsletter. Commission members would like to add information about the RAM rain barrel event, VLAWMO spring workshops, Waterfest event, and Watershed Partners Adopt a Drain program.

*Commission member left at 8:01pm*

c) Rush Line

The commission members discussed their support of the proposed Rush Line Bus Rapid Transit in the City of White Bear Lake. Commissioner Greenleaf moved, seconded by Commissioner Green, to support the concept of bus rapid transit in the City of White Bear Lake. Bus rapid transit advances our sustainability goals by reducing congestion, consumption of fossil fuels, and air emissions. Motion carried, vote 5/0.

**7. DISCUSSION**

a) Subcommittee updates

Commissioner Johnston handed out a list of questions regarding the City's recycling program. He asked to meet with staff at a later date to learn more about our program and the possibility of making Marketfest a zero waste event.

b) Staff updates

- MPCA Site Review

Staff reported that follow up testing at the intersection of County Road E and Bellaire Avenue will occur in the next couple of months.

- Water Gremlin TCE public meetings – February 21 and Mar 7

Staff reported that two Water Gremlin meetings will be held at White Bear Lake North High School at 6:30pm on February 21<sup>st</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup>.

- Best Practices for Pollinators Summit – March 17

Staff reported that the annual Pollinators Summit will be held at Silverwood Park in St Anthony from 8am to 12:30pm on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners are invited to attend.

c) Commission member updates

None

d) Do-outs

Commission members and staff discussed items on the current do-out list and added the following:

- Commissioner Sinnett to invite the U of M turf specialist to the April commission meeting.
- Staff to continue researching the Adopt a Drain Program and report back at the March meeting.
- Staff to meet with the recycling subcommittee prior to the March meeting

e) March agenda

Include 2019 street reconstruction projects, downtown area recycling, Adopt a Drain program, and Environmental Resources Expo, on the March agenda.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held at City Hall on March 20, 2019 at 6:30pm. Commissioner Bolstad moved, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 pm. Motion carried, vote 5/0.