



AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022
6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Commission meeting on February 16, 2022

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

John Anderson, Conservation Minnesota

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Draft presentation to Council
- B. Draft 2022 Work Plan
- C. Environmental Resource Expo

6. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled

7. DISCUSSION

- A. Staff updates
 - 2022 Environment Commissions Conference
 - Priebe outlet replacement
 - Raingarden Palooza Series
- B. Commission member updates
- C. Do-outs
- D. April agenda

8. ADJOURNMENT



City of White Bear Lake
Engineering Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Environmental Advisory Commission
From: Connie Taillon, P.E., Environmental Specialist
Date: March 9, 2022
Subject: **Action Items - March 16, 2022 EAC Meeting**

Agenda Item 5A. Draft Presentation to Council

The draft presentation from Chair Schroeher is included in the packet.

Action: Review the draft presentation and provide comments.

Agenda item 5B. Draft 2022 Work Plan

The draft 2022 work plan is included in the packet.

Action: Review problem statements, possible results lists, and steps to achieve the results for each goal in the work plan list. Consider a motion to approve the draft 2022 work plan.

Agenda Item 5C. Environmental Resource Expo

The 2021 Expo list is included in the packet for review. The Marketfest Coordinator invited the EAC to hold the Environmental Expo at Marketfest on July 28, 2022.

Action: Review exhibitor list and discuss next steps for exhibitor invitations.



**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 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 6:37 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sheryl Bolstad, Chris Greene, Bonnie Greenleaf, Rick Johnston,
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 **Greenleaf**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried 5:0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of January 19, 2022

The commission members reviewed the January 19, 2022 and had the following changes: 4d, visitors and presentations, line 2 add 'Washington Square' after 'Members stated that...'; line 6 change 'Judy noted that the Caucus for Climate is...' to 'Judy noted that the Minnesota Precinct Causus' are...'; line 7 add 'regarding climate change' after '...NEMCA has selected five resolutions...'. 5c, Unfinished Business, change vice president to vice chair.

It was moved by member **Greene** seconded by member **Johnston**, to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2022 meeting as amended.

Motion carried, 5:0.

4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nothing scheduled

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Draft presentation to Council

Members reviewed the draft presentation and discussed comments from member

Johnston. Chair Schroeher will revise the presentation for review at the March meeting. Chair Schroeher asked Taillon to provide information on the number of drains adopted in the City and a list of City owned electric lawn equipment to include in the presentation. Taillon stated that she will work with the City Manager to determine a date for the presentation.

B. Draft 2022 Work Plan

Members discussed the draft work plan priority list. The 'reduce recycling contamination workshop' received the most votes. Members decided to change the name from 'workshop' to 'education' to allow for other educational opportunities such as a news story article or Expo displays. Member Johnston suggested that for each goal listed, members should come up with a problem statement as to why the goal is worth their effort, what would they like to see as an outcome, and what steps are needed to reach that outcome. Each member chose two or three topics from the list that they will work on. Member Bolstad offered to create a Google doc for entering work plan goal details.

C. Environmental Resources Expo

Taillon stated that the Marketfest coordinator emailed an invitation to hold the Environmental Resources Expo at the July 28, 2022 Marketfest event. Members all agreed to host the event at Marketfest again this year on July 28, 2022. Taillon will email the Marketfest coordinator and reserve July 28, 2022 for the Environmental Resources Expo. Members asked staff to include the Expo spreadsheet on the March agenda for further discussion.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. VLAWMO Pool Guidance

Taillon asked if the members had any review comments on the draft pool draining guidance created by VLAWMO. Member Greene stated that draining pool water to a storm sewer is the same as directly draining to a waterbody. He suggested changing the language in step 4 to include streets, catch basins, and storm sewer. Taillon will pass this comment on to VLAWMO.

7. DISCUSSION

A. Staff updates

- Rotary Park restoration project planning
Taillon noted that the City is working with Rotary Club to identify restoration projects in Rotary Park. The project planned for the 2022 season will be a 2,800 square foot seeded area and 560 square foot planted area located south of the parking lot and east of the trail.
- VLAWMO MS4 SWPPP tips webinar
Taillon mentioned that the Environmental Advisory Commission is invited to attend

the MS4 tips webinar hosted by VLAWMO. The webinar is scheduled for February 17th and 22nd from 11:30am to 12:00pm.

- 2022 street project and raingarden program
Taillon stated that the curb cut raingarden program will be offered again this year for residents on the 2022 street project. The program was announced at the public meeting late last year, and a brochure sent to all residents on the project.

B. Commission member updates

The commission members did not have any updates.

C. Do-outs

New do-out items for February 16, 2022 include:

- Chair Schroeher will revise the presentation and bring to the March meeting for review.
- Staff to research City electric lawn equipment inventory and number of drains adopted in the City.
- Commission members to create a problem statement, list possible results, and define steps to achieve the results for each goal assigned to them in the work plan list.
- Member Bolstad to create a Google doc for entering work plan goal details.
- Staff to email the Marketfest coordinator and reserve July 28, 2022 for the Environmental Resource Expo.
- Staff to email pool brochure member comments to Nick.
- Staff to invite the new City Manager to the April commission meeting.
- Chair Schroeher to invite Prairie City to the April commission meeting.

D. March agenda

The commission members decided to meet virtually in March because two members will be out of town during that meeting. Taillon stated that the new City Manager would like to introduce herself at a future meeting. Chair Schroeher asked Taillon to invite her to the next in person meeting on April 20th. Chair Schroeher will also see if Prairie City USA could attend the in person April meeting instead of the March virtual meeting. Taillon will include the draft presentation, work plan, and Environmental Resources Expo on the March agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, it was moved by member **Greenleaf** seconded by member **Greene** to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Motion carried, 5:0

2022 Proposed Goals	Bob	Bonnie	Chris	Rick	Sheryl	Gary	TOTAL
plastic bag ordinance		x					1
Zero waste events			x	x			2
pollinator plantings		x	x			x	3
Downtown recycling	x			x	x		2
reduce recycling contamination workshop	x	x		x	x	x	4
no mow May	x		x				1
Prairie city initiative							0
pollinator garden tour /promotion							0
electric lawn equipment			x	x		x	3
solar on buildings		x		x	x		3
restaurant composting							0
drinking water quality	x						0
microplastics awareness							0
city plastic recycling with Merrick	x			x			1
rebates for water efficient appliance		x		x	x		3
water conservation promotion						x	1
buckthorn removal event with RWMWD			x			x	2
Develop Zero Waste Plan							0
promote residential energy audits							0
Create Sustainable community goals							0
Earth day event							0
Increase green space tree plantings					x		1

NOTE: for other ideas, review the GreenStep Cities 'best practices' list at <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/b>

Environmental Advisory Commission 2022 Work Plan - DRAFT

Month	Recurrent Agenda Items	Activities/Events /Speakers
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Resource Expo planning Priority goal(s) planning 	Vadnais Heights Park, Recreation, and Trails Commission
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring newsletter articles - adopt a drain & spotlight on sustainability Environmental Resource Expo planning High priority goals 	Prairie City USA
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Resource Expo planning High priority goals National Mayor's Water Challenge Discuss upcoming annual SWPPP meeting 	<p style="color: red;">Street Project discussion</p> <p style="color: red;">SWMP discussion</p>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Resource Expo planning High priority goals 	
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Resource Expo planning High priority goals 	
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Resource Expo planning High priority goals 	
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Resource Expo planning High priority goals 	Environmental Resource Expo, July XX
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No official meeting this month 	
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 Work Plan Volunteer Recognition Dinner slide show ideas Prepare for joint meeting with Parks Commission 	R&E Center Tour (when?)
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 Work Plan Commission Officer Election – Chair, Vice-Chair Prepare for joint meeting with Parks Commission 	
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint meeting with Parks Commission 	
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve 2023 Work Plan 	Holiday Treats

High Priority Goals for 2022

- Presentation to City Council (introductions, past accomplishments, upcoming initiatives)

High Priority Goals from 2021

- Plastic bag ordinance
- Zero waste events
- Pollinator plantings
- DT area recycling
- Reducing contamination in recycling (scrap metal, batteries, plastic bags) – staff request

Other Goals

- No Mow May
- Solar on buildings
- IDDE lawn clippings and trash
- Partnering with Xcel Energy on special projects
- Salt management education
- Expo exhibit upgrades: tent weights, banner, battery powered lawn equipment display
- Promote high quality of drinking water (reduce bottled water use)
- Enforcement of water ordinance and illicit discharge ordinance (grass clippings)– door hangers, etc
- EAC duties/goals
- Restaurant composting
- Pollinator garden tours/promotion/map of gardens
- Shoreview water smart app
- Microplastics
- Drinking water quality
- Enforcement of water ordinance and illicit discharge ordinance (grass clippings)– door hangers, etc

Review GreenStep Cities website: <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/best-practices>

Climate Smart Municipalities topics

- Community solar and solar panels on City buildings
- Charge for plastic bags
- Single use plastics
- Climate change resolution
- Partner with Xcel Energy for Projects
- Air quality-lawn equipment (City and private).
- Energy focus, specifically renewables

Ramsey County Solid Waste Master Plan topics

- Curbside collection of bulky items for recycling
- Inclusion of small businesses in City recycling service
- Textile recycling (curbside, special collection, or drop-off) – required by 2019

MS4 Permit topics

- Salt management education
- Dog waste

Current initiatives

LED lighting in City Hall, Public Safety, and Public Works

EV chargers in DT parking lots

Fleet vehicle analysis

Climate Action Steering Committee

Sports Center Upgrades and solar

City facility energy Audit - Trane

Environmental Resource Expo - Exhibitor and Volunteer Master List

August 5, 2021 5:00pm to 9:30pm

EAC contact	Organization	Need table & canopy?	2017 status	2018 status	2019 attendance	2021 status
?	Lawns to Legumes?					
?	Met Council Environmental Services?		yes	no	no	
Bob	White Bear Lake Seed Library	no - share with Master Gardeners			yes	no
	Metro Transit	NA	yes	yes	yes	no
	Ramsey County Master Gardeners	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Rainbow Tree Care	yes		yes	yes	yes
Chris	Tesla Dealership					no
	Tesla owner/Electric Vehicle Group Contact		yes	yes		yes - 3 vehicles
	Electric Lawn Equipment Demo	save a space next to the EAC tent			NA	
	Scouts - Troup 494	no - volunteers	yes	yes		sign up available
Bonnie	MN State Horticultural Society - magazines	no	yes - books	yes - 2 boxes of magazines and a membership to raffle	yes - 1 box magazines	Complete
Sheryl	Tamarack Nature Center	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Conservation Minnesota		yes	yes	no	no
Gary	Rush Line Corridor	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Adopt a Drain - Watershed Partners/RCWD	yes		-	yes	
	Ramsey County - curbside composting					no
	RWMWD					new invite for 2021
Connie	Pollinator Friendly Alliance	yes	yes	yes - no show	yes	yes
	EV owner - WBL resident	no		yes - 1 additional vehicle	yes	did not contact
	NE Metro Climate Action				yes	yes - has a tent. Email map to katewinsor@comcast.net
	MN350					emailed 07.19.21
	Citizens Climate Lobby	yes			yes	no
	Bruce Vento Regional Trail - New as of 06/02/21					may be interested if timing is right
	Zero Waste Task Force - Sierra Club	yes			yes	yes
	VLAWMO	no	yes	yes	yes	yes - has a tent
	Race to Reduce + H2O for Life		yes	no	no	invite sent 052421
	WBL City, EAC, Ramsey County Envir Health	yes - shared table	yes	yes	yes	yes - need 2 spaces, 2 tables, 1 tent
	Xcel					yes - Sponsor for Expo - has their own tent. Do they need a table?
	Footprint Earth Foundation		yes	yes	yes	invite sent 052421
	Wilderness in the City				interested for 2020	invite sent 071921
Center for Energy and Environment (CEE)	yes	yes	yes	yes	invite sent 052421	
University of Minnesota Turfgrass Research Group					new invite for 2021?	



**CONSERVATION
MINNESOTA**

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE

2022 ENVIRONMENT COMMISSIONS CONFERENCE

The annual conference for cities' environment commissions is back in 2022! We'll be meeting in-person to discuss commissions' efforts on environmental issues and have a chance to network and learn from each other's experience working on these issues at the city level. Opportunities to participate online will be available as well.

WHO

All city environment commission members and people interested in starting a similar commission in their own community.

WHERE

**Robert H. Rohlf Room at Ridgedale Public Library
12601 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka MN 55305**

WHEN

Saturday, April 30th, from 10 am to 1:30 pm

A registration form will be coming shortly, for now just save the date!

QUESTIONS?

Please contact John Anderson with Conservation Minnesota at:

johna@conservationminnesota.org

Raingarden Palooza!

**Taking care of
clean water gardens
together.**



A 3-part series on how to take care of rain gardens and tackle weeds.

**Work, learn, and meet
fellow garden enthusiasts.**

Each event is an entry for prizes!

A partnership between:



June 9: Lake Josephine

July 21: Lakeaires Elementary

Sept 22: Downtown White Bear Lake

Snacks included all days

Details on locations, times, and RSVP:

vlawmo.org/events

Current Do-Outs

Commission Members

- Gary to revise the presentation and bring to the March meeting for review.
- Gary to invite Prairie City to the April commission meeting.
- Create a problem statement, list possible results, and define steps to achieve the results for each goal assigned to them in the work plan list.
- Sheryl to create a Google doc for entering work plan goal details.
- ~~— Consider supporting NEMCA environmental resolutions in the upcoming precinct caucus.~~
- ~~— Bonnie to revise the presentation slides by February 2nd and email to commission members for review.~~
- Rick to schedule a meeting with Connie to review unfinished GreenStep Cities Best Practices.
- Review GreenStep Cities list for 2022 work plan ideas
- Gary offered to lead the ‘reduce recycling contamination’ work plan item.
- Bonnie to add to token spreadsheet
- Gary to organize a potential buckthorn removal event with RWMWD and YMCA at the YMCA and Lakewood Hills Park
- Gary to contact Jake from Specialized Technologies to speak at a future EAC meeting

Staff

- Research City electric lawn equipment inventory and number of drains adopted in the City.
- ~~— Email the Marketfest coordinator and reserve July 28, 2022 for the Environmental Resource Expo.~~
- ~~— Email pool brochure member comments to Nick.~~
- ~~— Invite the new City Manager to the April commission meeting.~~
- ~~— Email 2022 draft goals spreadsheet and ask Bob to add his top 5 priorities to the spreadsheet~~
- Email updated photos to Bonnie for inclusion in the presentation slides.
- Research where to properly dispose of concrete wash water
- Request grant application from Ramsey County for DT recycling containers
- Check with PW to determine why there aren't trees in some of the cutouts on Banning
- Contact Ellen to get an update from the MPCA on the status of testing at County E and Bellaire
- Email air quality sensor info to Public Works
- Schedule tour of Newport facility at a date TBD – add to 2022 work plan
- Purchase compostable products for City events
- Add water use tracking app to CSM action items
- Show the WBAHS winning video at a future meeting
- Add AIS ID information to the website and update adopt a drain page

- Watershed district map (large scale with aerial photo)