



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

PUBLIC MEETING ROOM

MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023

6:00 PM

Meeting Items

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 6:18 p.m. on Monday, July 24, 2023. In attendance were Teresa DeMars, Cindy Diessner, Dick Huston, Lee Nordmeyer, Roger Steinkamp and Chair Sonny Wasilowski. Also in attendance were Mathias Hughey and Kari Casper. Special guests were Cliff and Ray from Curbsidde Compost.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes were not attached in the packet.

3. Items for Discussion

A. Curbside Compost Co-op Presentation

Cliff and Ray were here to present their business of curbside composting. Right now they are active in Northfield and are looking to expand into Faribault. They currently have 50 potential customers but are looking for between 100 to 150 to get rolling here in Faribault.

They are able to take all organic matter and currently send it to a spot in Shakopee with the SMSC to compost. They are actively looking for local land to compost on. This would have to be in the country, since there is an element of smell. They use buckets with small trucks at this time and would like to service larger commercial businesses. However, they do not have the equipment at this time. As they grow, they hope to begin using those materials to help compost and keep this organic matter out of our landfill. Some of their funding comes from grants through the MPCA which, if we are interested, pass through municipalities and we could assist them next year when the time is right to get the next grant. Their fee is minimal and is based on ability to pay.

B. ElectroFUN Faribault with ReCharge America

This is a collaborative work with Trystar and will take place at their facility on September 23 from 10:00 to 2:00. Ideas to maybe table the event for the Environmental Commission; maybe sponsor a level at the event. The ENV has a small budget and the could come up with promotional items and/or brochures to run by Mathias to see if it is something we could do?

4. Announcements and Updates

A. Tree Preservation Engagement Update

Mathias Hughey is in the process of developing a survey to the general public.

B. Ground Mounted Solar RFP

The City Council has requested that RFP's go out for bids on the 2.5 acres at the Public Works Facility for ground mounted solar. The bids are going out to CERT's as well to see if

they know of anyone interested.

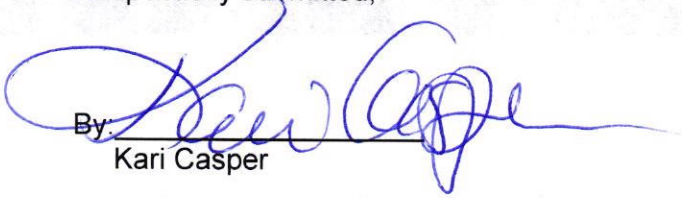
C. Community Solar Garden Subscription Expansion

The city is looking to expand on it's current subscription. Hughey indicated that the city saved approx. \$37,000 last year.

5. Adjournment

Motion by Teresa DeMars, seconded by Roger Steinkamp to adjourn at 7:43. The motion passed on a 6/0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Kari Casper