

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

PUBLIC MEETING ROOM

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023

6:00 PM

Meeting Items

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order by Vice Chair Martha Brown at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners Teresa DeMars, Cindy Diessner, Dick Huston, Lee Nordmeyer. Also in attendance was the Community Development Coordinator, Mathias Hughey and Kari Casper, Administrative Assistant. Also attending was Kristine Goodrich, Faribault Daily News.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Brown asked Hughey to send the form as referenced in the minutes and, after some discussion, Dick Huston made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Lee Nordmeyer. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Items for Discussion

A. Proposed Ordinance Amendments related to Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Hughey handed out Chair Wasilowski's email with comments for discussion on the proposed ordinance amendments. Hughey added that the City has chosen to allow the planning department to give a 20% credit on parking spaces if the company installs an EV charging station. The board chose not to restrict level 1 and level 2 to single family residences. Motion by Dick Huston, seconded by Lee Nordmeyer to Approve the proposed ordinance and amendments as presented. The motion passed on a 4/1 vote with Diessner voting to abstain.

B. Tall Grass and Weed Ordinance

Motion by Teresa DeMars to implement a registration system and allow the applicant to purchase a sign for a small fee of \$15.00 that would alleviate code enforcement's need to issue citations and would be recognizable to the public as a natural landscape.

Hughey offered to have staff visit the site if there were questionable plants. The motion was then seconded by Dick Huston. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Updated Energy Action Plan Draft

Motion by Dick Huston, seconded by Teresa DeMars to approve the Energy Action Plan with the recommendation that the City impose Sustainable Building Codes and adopt a program that requires energy audits at the time of the sale of a house as well as upon the request of a rental license. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Composting at City Facilities

Motion by Dick Huston, seconded by Teresa DeMars to table the adding of a compost contract to the City Hall break room until the commission has an opportunity to view the

current budget. The motion passed on a 4/1 vote.

E. ElectriFUN Faribault

The Environmental Commission agreed to table the event on 9/23 at Trystar. The people who indicated that they would like to attend would be Teresa DeMars, who will already be there for Rice County, Cindy Diessner and Lee Nordmeyer. We will let Roger Steinkamp know about this as well.

F. CERTs Seed Grants Ideas

Staff directed the board to review this information and to send him emails in this regard.

G. Complete Streets and Walk Audit

There will be a ribbon cutting at the Farmer's Market for the bump outs on September 16th during Family Day.

4. Routine Business

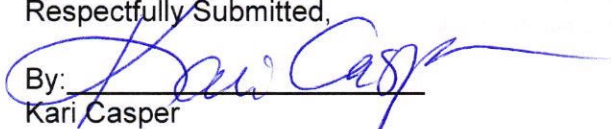
A. Announcements and Updates

Hughey indicated that the City is working on Level 3 with the Green Step Cities.

5. Adjournment

Motion by Lee Nordmeyer, seconded by Dick Huston to Adjourn at 7:25 p.m. The motion passed on a 5/0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 

Kari Casper

Recording Secretary