



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022

6:00 PM

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Chair Steinkamp called the meeting to order at 6:00.

Roll Call: Commissioner Diessner, Commissioner Huston, Commissioner Nesvold, Commissioner Behrens and Chair Steinkamp

Absent: Commissioner Garcia and Commissioner Wasilowski

Staff: Peter Waldock and Kari Casper.

2. Approve November 22, 2021 Minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Huston and seconded by Commissioner Nesvold to approve the November 22, 2021 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion unanimously passed.

3. Items for Discussion

A. Overview of the Environmental Commission's 2021 Accomplishments

There was quite a list of accomplishments. Behrens commented that he needs about two more years of work and then hopes to be back to the board and appreciated everyone's time.

Wasilowski's email was noted 6:05 p.m. and the interpreter was sent home.

B. Preliminary Discussion of 2022 Work Plan

Each year, the Environmental Commission must prepare a work plan to guide the efforts of the Environmental Commission over the coming year.

Wanberg presented a draft plan in the packet which included: 1) Urban Agriculture/Community Gardens; 2) Pollinators and Native Plantings; 3) Greening Downtown Faribault Master Plan; 4) Tree Inventory and Analysis on City Property; 5) Community-wide Energy Efficiency Action; 6) Transportation Efforts including Electric Vehicles; and 7) Awareness and Understanding of environmental Issues and Opportunities.

In going over this list, and, after much discussion, Commission Huston would like to see more community gardens around town. The Rotary currently has one but the property is currently in the process of being sold which they will need to find a new location. There was some talk about mass transit coming to Faribault and Nesvold mentioned Susie Nakasiar who has been instrumental in getting the rail to Northfield.

In addition to the above, Commissioner Diessner stated that she would like to see the City do something with Arbor Day and Earth Day. Commissioner Huston would like the City do work on invasive plants on city property. Behrens suggested the we allow citizens to do the natural plantings along North Alexander Park and allow them to care for rain gardens as well. The commission would also like to get the youth involved as well.

Commissioner Huston left at 6:45 p.m.

A. Routine Business

- A. Announcements and Updates
- B. Acknowledgment and Appreciation for the Service of Commissioners Behrens and Diessner

Passed out cups in honor of the Commissioner's service on the board. Special thank you's were exchanged to both the of parting Commissioners.

B. Adjourn

A motion was made by Commissioner Behrens and seconded by Commissioner Nesvold to adjourn at 7:03 pm.

Motion carried on a 4/0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 24, 2022

by: 
Kari Casper, Recording Secretary