

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**April 24, 2017**  
**6:00 PM**

North St. Paul – City Hall/Sandberg Room  
2400 Margaret Street



**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sue Springborn called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present: Sue Springborn, Chair  
Glen Olson, Vice Chair  
Simba Blood  
Felicia Tolbert-Ireland  
Jan Walczak, Council Liaison

Staff: Keith Stachowski, Public Works  
Debra Gustafson, Strategic Operations Director

**III. ADOPT AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted with the addition of Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Update.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. On motion by Commissioner Blood, seconded by Vice Chair Olson with all present voting aye, motion carried to approve the March 27, 2017 meeting minutes.

**V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

*Note: This is a courtesy extended to persons wishing to address the Commission concerning issues that are not on the agenda. This discussion will be limited to 15 minutes.*

**VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS-**

**VII. PRESENTATIONS**

**VIII. COMMISSION BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

A. **Review/Discussion/Possible Action:** Highway 36 Landscaping. Gustafson stated that Todd Carroll from MNDot attended the March EAC meeting, at that meeting he stated that the NSP MNDOT project work has been completed. Mr. Carroll presented the option for the City to apply for the MNDOT Landscape Partnership Program. The program is a reimbursement program that would provide the City with up to \$10,000 each year to plant within the highway 36 corridor. Since the program would require staff to plant and maintain, the EAC asked Gustafson to talk with the Public Works Director to see if he is on board prior to moving forward with applying and presenting a program resolution to City Council. Gustafson stated she would talk with the Public Works Director and would put the item on the May agenda.

- B. Review/Discussion/Possible Action:** Environmental Newsletter Articles. Gustafson stated that the City is planning to send out an Environmental Newsletter in August and asked the Commission for article ideas. Listed below are the suggested article ideas and the staff / commissioner responsible for the article. All articles need to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

<u>Article</u>	<u>Coordinating</u>
Fix It Clinic	Debra
Pollinators	Debra contacted the masters Gardener regarding an article
Organic Compost	Debra contacted the county regarding an article
Adopt A Drain	Simba
Pruning & Watering	Glen
Leaf Management & Fall Yard Care	Glen
Recycling Survey Results	Debra, if results are ready time of newsletter
Pumpkin Drop	Debra
Electric Rebates	Debra will work with the Electric Director on Article
Clean Energy	Debra will work with the Electric Director on Article

- C. Review/Discussion/Possible Action:** Score Grant – High School Recycling. Liaisons Gustafson and Stachowski shared with the Commission that they meet with Joel Anderson from Ramsey County to discuss strategies regarding ways the EAC could assist the High School with recycling. Mr. Anderson suggested having the EAC go on a tour of White Bear Lake High School to see what they did to improve their recycling levels, staff also included in the EAC’s packet White Bear Lake’s final report for the Ramsey County Public Entity Innovation Grant they received. The consensus of the EAC was to hold off going on a tour of White Bear Lake. Council Liaison, Walczak suggested having the City Manager talk to MN Senator Chuck Wiger regarding being involved since the recycling law is state mandated.
- D. Review/Discussion/Possible Action:** Teleconferencing. Gustafson shared statutory provisions regarding teleconferencing at public meetings that she had received from the City Attorney. Based on the provision, the Commission agreed that teleconferencing attendance shall be reserved for emergency situations.

## **IX. REPORTS FROM STAFF**

- A. Review/Discussion: Review/Discussion:** Comprehensive Planning Workshop: Meeting Moved from April 4<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gustafson reminded the Commission of the meeting date change and provided meeting details.
- B. Review/Discussion:** Opening on the EAC. Gustafson stated the opening on the Commission will be advertised in an upcoming newsletter and on Social Meeting. She stated she will also inform the Citizens Academy Participants at their last meeting. Walczak asked staff to have it listed on the Channel 16 crawl.
- C. Review/Discussion:** Tree Give Away. The overall EAC consensus of the event was that it went great. Suggestions for next year, maybe smaller trees, no maples next year and maybe include information regarding the participants’ responsibility and somehow share information that even though they are free to the recipient they are not “free” trees.

D. **Review/Discussion:** Historical Society Plant Sale: Chair Springborn stated the Plant sale will take place on May 13<sup>th</sup> from 10-2pm. Commissioner Tolbert-Ireland offered to attend with EAC PR materials from 10a-12p.

**X. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

A. **Review/Discussion:** Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Update.  
Commissioner Olson provided a brief overview of his last Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee meetings.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Commissioner Blood, seconded by Vice Chair Olson, with all present voting aye, motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

***Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting May 22, 2017***