



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov

Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

Monday, June 17, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Provancha called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

- Present:** 5 - Vice Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner George Kinney and Commissioner Susannah Shmurak
- Absent:** 3 - Chair Daniel Jones, Commissioner Michelle Mattson and Commissioner Jael Conde

Also present: Risi Karim, Assistant to the City Administrator; Matt Bailey, Meeting Associate

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Petri, seconded by Commissioner Kinney, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 5 - Vice Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Kinney and Commissioner Shmurak

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [24-391](#) May 15, 2024 EQC Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [1 - May 15, 2024 EQC Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinney, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the May 15, 2024 EQC Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 5 - Vice Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Kinney and Commissioner Shmurak

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. [24-392](#) 2025 Board and Commission Appointment Process Update

Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim updated the EQC on eligibility and deadlines for 2025 Board and Commission Appointments.

3. [24-393](#) 2023 Community Data Dashboard

Attachments: [1 - Northfield 2023 Q4](#)

Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim presented the 2023 Community Data Dashboard. The Commissioners discussed the data included in the dashboard.

4. [24-394](#) 2024 Work Plan Update

Attachments: [1 - 2024 Work Plan June](#)

Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim presented updates on the 2024 EQC Work Plan. The Commissioners provided updates on their work:

- Zero Waste Plan Implementation: The final version of the short and long version of the Zero Waste Event Guide was presented to the Commission in May. The Carleton students working on the initiative are on summer break, but there is an expectation that a Green Corps member will be assigned to the initiative.

- Inflation Reduction Act Workshop Series: Commissioner Anderson attended an informational session on the Inflation Reduction Act rebates which are not expected to be distributed until spring 2025. Commissioners Anderson, Provancha, and Kinney tabled at the Riverwalk Market Fair this past Saturday, providing information on the IRA rebates. Commissioner Petri solicited for volunteers to participate in the next tabling event. Anderson and Petri also reported that the Polish Delegation visit was busy and successful. Commissioner Shmurak requested additional information on what energy efficiency information is included with utility bill mailings. Karim will check on what is currently being done.

- Active Living: Walk and Bike Campaign: There is nothing new to report.

- Food Education Campaign: Commissioner Provancha reported that this initiative is complete.

- Native Planting Promoting: Tree Planting & Vegetation: Kinney reported that this initiative continues. Karim reported that the city arborist is in her busiest season.

STAFF UPDATES

5. [24-395](#) Staff Update.

Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim provided updates from City staff. Karim responded to questions and comments from the Commissioners.

BOARD MEMBER AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- *Commissioner Petri reported on her attendance of the Citizens Climate Lobby Conference in Washington.*
- *Commissioner Kinney reported on the tabling at the Riverwalk Market Fair last Saturday.*
- *Commissioner Anderson reported on the City's past hiring of a consultant to solicit community feedback on City administrative services. One of the recommendations was to hire a Sustainability Coordinator. Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim reported on the specifics of this report and plans for such a position on City staff in the future.*
- *Commissioner Shmurak attended the tour of the High School concerning the potential new building. Karim reported on the EQC's recommendation of funding a testing of geothermal energy for the existing or new building. Shmurak reported on the poor insulation and energy efficiency of the current building.*
- *Anderson thanked Karim for facilitating a meeting earlier today concerning the City's sustainable building policy. Karim provided further information on what was discussed in the meeting.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinney, seconded by Commissioner Shmurak, to adjourn the . The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 5 - Vice Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Kinney and Commissioner Shmurak

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Kinney, seconded by Commissioner Shmurak, to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. The motion failed by the following vote: