



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
ci.northfield.mn.us

Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

Thursday, February 8, 2018

7:00 PM

2nd Floor Training Room

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chair Kim Smith called the February EQC meeting to order at 6:58pm.

A motion was made by Board Member Kinney, seconded by Board Member Rohn, to approve the February 2018 agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. [18-064](#)

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes Jan-2018](#)

A motion was made by Board Member Miller, seconded by Board Member Petri, to approve the January 2018 minutes as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

III. Public Comment

Alex shared information on Climate Action Week at Carleton, which will run from February 17 through February 24 this year. She provided posters for distribution, listing events during the week.

Alex shared information on the Carleton Community Repair Fair, which will take place on March 31 from 1:00-3:00 in the Weitz Center. Additional discussion on participation will continue at the March EQC meeting.

Alex shared information on the Community Driven Clean Energy Conference, which will be March 28 - 29 in St. Cloud. The cost of the two day conference is \$55.

Mary Jo Cristofaro updated EQC members on the plans for Northfield's 2018 Earth Day Celebration. This year's event will take place at the Armory on Saturday, April 21, with door knocking the weekend before to promote the event. More information including tabling opportunities will be shared closer to the Earth Day.

Janet announced the movie "Saving Snow" will be shown on March 5th at 7:00 at the UCC.

IV. Unfinished Business

2. [18-065](#)

Continued Discussion of Engagement with other Boards and Commissions.

Attachments: [Organization Diagram](#)

Discussions continue between EQC members and other boards and commissions. EQC members are reaching out to the staff liaisons to understand meeting dates and times.

Changes may need to be made to Kim's original PRAB presentation to fit better with each board or commission.

V. New Business Items

3. [18-066](#) EQC Goals for the Upcoming Year

Kim will meet with Wanda to develop an EQC calendar to be shared with the members at the March EQC meeting. EQC goals discussed for 2018 were:

**DSI Contract, which expires March 2019*

**Climate Action Plan*

**Storm Water Work, which includes promoting pollinator friendly plantings, rain gardens & barrels, pesticide management*

**Curbside Composting update*

**EAB, which was received by council but will go back in March to be adopted*

**Communication Goals*

4. [18-067](#) Discussion of Orientation for the Climate Action Plan Advisory Board.

Discussion was held on the role of the EQC with the CAPAB being formed. The CAPAB is on the February 13th consent agenda. Mayor Pownell will start accepting applications for the board the next day. The mayor's choices for the CAPAB will go before council either March 6 or February 20 for approval. At that time, meeting times and dates will be set. EQC members would like to meet with the newly appointed CAPAB members for an orientation meeting to share background information on work that has been completed to get to this point and to share resources Northfield has to offer.

5. [18-068](#) Discussion of 2017 Strategic Plan's Priorities related to Climate Change Impacts

Attachments: [Complete Strategic Plan](#)

Discussion was held on ways to incorporate the Climate Communication/Outreach Program to be included within the Climate Action Plan. Staff is working on implementation of a communications outreach plan. An outreach team will be formed as a subcommittee of the CAPAB. Ideas shared were:

**Sharing information on resilience, not just numbers*

**An awareness survey to be sent to the public. It is important to ask specific questions instead of a generic survey to collect the most useful data.*

**Be intentional and proactive on community solar instead of choosing what comes along.*

**The City's energy savings goes into a revolving fund to be used on sustainable energy.*

**Climate Justice - Social Justice*

VI. Adjournment

Items for the March 2018 EQC meeting:

**Calendar*

**Draft Orientation*

**Updates on other Boards & Commissions Presentations*

A motion was made by Board Member Rohn, seconded by Board Member Kinney, to adjourn the February 2018 EQC meeting at 7:58pm. All in favor. Motion carried.