



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

Thursday, November 8, 2018

7:00 PM

City Hall 2nd Floor Training Room

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chair Kim Smith called the November EQC meeting to order at 7:00pm.

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

II. Approval of Minutes

1. [18-544](#)

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

A motion was made by Board Member Miller, seconded by Board Member Rohn, to approve the October 2018 minutes as amended to include a link to the CAPAB update. All in favor. Motion carried.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Unfinished Business

2. [18-545](#)

Meet Jae Morrison, City of Northfield Street and Parks Supervisor

Jae Morrison, Streets & Parks Supervisor, was introduced to EQC members. Kim shared the background of urban forestry in Northfield. Discussion was held on the approved tree list and a broad approach to tree care.

3. [18-546](#)

Update on Storm Damage to City Trees

103 boulevard trees and 25 park trees were lost in the September 20th storm. All of the city trees have been chipped and removed. Discussion was held on offering the community a chance to purchase park or boulevard trees during the spring tree sale. George, Matt & Carla will continue to research adding and appendix to the prohibited tree list, and report back at the December EQC meeting.

4. [18-547](#)

Consider a Motion Proclaiming 2019 as the “Year of Water” in Northfield.

Attachments: [2019 Year of Water Proclamation](#)

A motion was made by Board Member Miller, seconded by Board Member Rohn, to approve the resolution declaring 2019 the Year of Water. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. [18-548](#)

Update of Outreach with other Boards and Commissions.

EQC members continue to reach out to other Northfield boards and commissions to update them on current EQC work.

6. [18-549](#)

Improving Board and Commission Performance Training Session

EQC members felt the October 17 training session was a good overall entry level training.

The following EQC duties were discussed:

- *Advise the city council, planning commission and the city governmental staff on the environmental impact of proposed undertakings that fall in part or in total under the city's jurisdiction*

- *and recommend changes that would lessen or eliminate their environmentally detrimental effects.*

- *Appraise activities of the city government and public and private organizations to determine the extent to which such activities contribute to or detract from city environmental goals.*

- *Recommend to the city council additional environmental policy provisions and ordinances, as well as actions and programs that will maintain or improve environmental quality and the conservation of natural resources.*

- *Request that the city council authorize studies on matters pertaining to environmental quality and natural resources and recommend, when necessary, the employment of professionally qualified persons to carry out such studies.*

- *Hold public hearings at the request of the city council.*

- *Report to the city council on the activities of the commission.*

- *Request a budget to provide for the payment of all ordinary expenses incurred in carrying out EQC functions.*

- *Promote public awareness and concern for environmental quality and conservation of natural resources.*

V. New Business Items

7. [18-550](#)

Update On Christmas Tree Collection

Currently, DSI collects and dispose of Christmas trees left on the boulevards within the City of Northfield. A. Miller shared another option of Goat Dispatch drop off locations in Faribault. The goats use Christmas trees as a winter food source.

VI. Adjournment

Items for the December 2018 EQC meeting:

- * Xcel - tree trimming*

- * Urban Forestry discussion*

- * Prohibited Tree List*

- * Dark Sky Ordinance (Land Development Code)*

- * 2019 EQC Goals*

- * How EQC & CAPAB Work Together*

A motion was made by Board Member Miller, seconded by Board Member Kinney, to adjourn the November 2018 meeting at 8:37pm. The motion carried unanimously.