

Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

Thursday, January 12, 2017

7:00 PM

City Hall 2nd Floor Training Room

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Cliff Martin called the January EQC meeting to order at 7:05pm.

A motion was made by Board Member Smith, seconded by Board Member Culbreth, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Board Member Kinney, seconded by Board Member Culbreth, to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

1. [17-597](#)

Attachments: [MeetingMinutesDec-2016](#)

III. Public Comment

Sara Payne spoke to EQC members regarding Northfield becoming a Bee City. After further review and discussions with staff, the group of community members have decided to focus their efforts on Northfield's pollinator programs. The group Sara works with is especially passionate regarding education and hope to share their knowledge of bees and pollinators with the citizens of Northfield. Contact information was shared.

IV. Unfinished Business

2. [17-598](#)

Election of Officers

A motion was made by Board Member Culbreth, seconded by Board Member Smith, to elect George Kinney as 2017 EQC Chairman. A motion was made by Board Member Culbreth, seconded by Board Member Martin, to elect Kim Smith as 2017 EQC Vice-Chair. The motions carried unanimously.

3. [17-599](#)

Northfield Energy Working Group Update

The energy working group presented the work they have done to this point. They have begun their study of how other cities track and record their energy data. They have begun sifting through all the City of Northfield energy data. They requested EQC support for Mayor Pownell to sign the Global Covenant of Mayors, and for the city to support the creation of a climate action plan. The Energy Working Group will work on a resolution to present to council for a climate action plan. Discussion was held on this work supporting Green Step Cities requirements. EQC members requested Rochester be added to the list of cities for comparisons.

A motion was made by Board Member Rohn, seconded by Board Member Martin, to recommend Mayor Pownell sign the Global Covenant of Mayors as a structure

and resource for creating and implementing a Northfield Climate Action Plan, with continued work on Green Step Cities and expanding the review of Climate Action Plans of cities similar to Northfield to include Rochester. The motion carried unanimously.

V. New Business Items

4. [17-600](#) Ameresco City Facility Assessment

Attachments: [City of Northfield LOA - Ameresco PrelimAudit](#)

Kent Wolf, from Ameresco, gave a presentation to EQC members on the benefits of working with his company to find ways for Northfield to become more energy efficient. He would like the opportunity to conduct a study to see if Northfield would benefit from energy changes Ameresco could initiate with local contractors.

A motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Board Member Smith, to move forward with the Ameresco study. The motion carried unanimously.

5. [17-601](#) Organic Compost Dumpster

Attachments: [Organic Compost Dumpster.pdf](#)

The organic compost dumpster from the compost site has been moved to the street shop for the winter months when the compost site is not open. EQC members suggested adding an informational / educational insert in the city water bill.

6. [17-602](#) EQC goals for the upcoming year

Due to the length of the January meeting, EQC goals for the upcoming year will be discussed at the February EQC meeting.

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Board Member Culbreth, seconded by Board Member Smith, to adjourn the January EQC meeting at 9:07pm. The motion carried unanimously.