



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

Thursday, August 10, 2017

7:00 PM

City Hall 2nd Floor Training Room

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Board Member Rohn, seconded by Board Member Smith, that the agenda be approved as amended to include updates on community solar and wild parsnip. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. [17-944](#)

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Board Member Smith, seconded by Board Member Miller, to approve the July 2017 minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Public Comment

Lynn Vincent voiced her concerns regarding the effects of global warming and climate change.

Pat Allen read her personal statement on climate change on the world, nation, state & community. She is thankful to see the Climate Action Plan as a priority on Northfield's strategic plan. Pat voiced interested in being a part of the CAP process.

Avery Hildebrand, from Conservation Northfield, shared upcoming opportunities in the Northfield area.

*Healthy Homes, Healthy Families - September 16th at the Northfield Public Library
25 by 25 Community Water Meetings - Several days in September at various locations
(more to be added)*

Avery voiced interested in being a part of the CAP process.

Kristi Pursell & Barb Matz, from Cannon River Watershed Partnership, reported on training master water stewards. Barb asked for advice on a location for a rain garden she would like to install as part of her capstone project. EQC members shared ideas on locations at the city, schools and churches. The idea of doing a restoration project was discussed. EQC suggested CRWP ask the Park and Recreation Advisory Board for input on locations for plantings at their next meeting next Thursday.

IV. Unfinished Business

2. [17-945](#)

Planning for the Climate Action Plan Process.

Attachments: [Northfield-One Page Summary 07 26 2017](#)

The City Council approved the Strategic Plan Summary at the August 8th council meeting, which includes developing a climate action plan (CAP). Discussion was held on

the boundaries of developing a plan, as well as the resources the city is willing to devote to the process. EQC feel it is important to include large stake holders as well as the colleges and current working group in the initial stages of planning. GNSC is willing to hold a public event to bring together interested citizens to form sub-committees. College students are lined up and willing to pull data. Kim Smith will talk to the mayor and report back to EQC on her vision of the CAP.

V. New Business Items

3. [17-946](#) Discussion of Garbage Fund and Contract.

Attachments: [SIGNED DSI Refuse Contract](#)

The City's garbage contract comes due on March 31, 2019. EQC members would like to see incentives for waste reduction in the size and cost of garbage containers. Discussion was held on the possibility of garbage pick-up changing to every other week and recycling pick-up switch to every week. EQC members are leaning against the Request For Proposal process, but instead involve DSI in discussions on ways to improve public education and waste reduction.

VI. Adjournment

The City Council approved a Solar Garden Subscription Agreement with CF Novel Solar Gardens Five, LLC at their August 8, 2017 council meeting.

Staff shared a map of locations wild parsnip has been treated in Northfield. Cheryl Culbreth shared that she is willing to train volunteers on the proper way to remove invasive species.

A motion was made by Board Member Martin, seconded by Board Member Rohn, to adjourn the August 2017 meeting at 8:47. The motion carried unanimously.