



# City of Northfield

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

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Wednesday, September 16, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### Roll Call

*Also Present: Beth Kallestad - Program Coordinator, Howard White, Barb Neitzel - Recording Secretary*

**Present:** 6 - Janet Petri, Carla Hansen, Brian Nowak, Kim Smith, Mika Turner and Bruce Anderson

### I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

*A motion was made by K. Smith and seconded by J. Petri to add Review of Riverfront Enhancement Study after Item #4 in New Business Items. All in favor. Motion carried.*

**A motion was made by Board Member Nowak, seconded by Board Member Hansen, to approve the September 16, 2020 EQC Agenda as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Petri, Board Member Hansen, Board Member Nowak, Board Member Smith, Board Member Turner and Board Member Anderson

### II. Approval of Minutes

**A motion was made by Board Member Petri, seconded by Board Member Anderson, to approve the August 19, 2020 EQC Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Petri, Board Member Hansen, Board Member Nowak, Board Member Smith, Board Member Turner and Board Member Anderson

1. [20-463](#) August 19, 2020 EQC Minutes

**Attachments:** [1 - 08-19-20 EQC Minutes](#)

### III. Unfinished Business

### IV. New Business Items

2. [20-464](#) Consider motion of support for federal legislation

**Attachments:** [1 - revised final draft A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING A FEDERAL REVENUE-NEUTRAL MARKET-BASED FEE ON CARBON IN FOSSIL FUELS-3](#)

*Howard White, Co-Chair of Citizens Climate Lobby, gave some background on the formation of the resolution and asked the EQC for their support.*

*Various commission members supported the resolution stating it could help implement*

*the Climate Action Plan since it focuses on carbon pricing principles.*

*Chair Smith could not support the resolution as written. She would like it to emphasize the need for help from the state and national levels in order to implement the Climate Action Plan.*

*Members suggested re-writing the second whereas so it relates directly to the Climate Action Plan and eliminate specific legislation.*

**A motion was made by Board Member Anderson, seconded by Board Member Nowak, to table this item to allow time to rework resolution language and re-visit in October. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Petri, Board Member Hansen, Board Member Nowak, Board Member Smith, Board Member Turner and Board Member Anderson

**3. [20-465](#)** Consider motion regarding establishment of Carbon Reduction Fund

**Attachments:** [1-Carbon Reduction Fund Resolution DRAFT 080320](#)

*Staff stated the Carbon Reduction Fund would be used to implement Climate Action Plan items that focus on carbon sequestration and would be funded by contributions and donations.*

*EQC members spoke in favor of the motion and made the following change to the third Whereas: Add "and the City" after the word institutions.*

**A motion was made by Board Member Smith, seconded by Board Member Hansen, to approve the resolution for the Creation of a Carbon Reduction Fund as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Petri, Board Member Hansen, Board Member Nowak, Board Member Smith, Board Member Turner and Board Member Anderson

**4. [20-466](#)** Water work group article review

**Attachments:** [1 - DRAFT To the Editor - lawns](#)

*M. Turner noted this education article was the work of Janet Mitchell. It will be shared on social media. C. Hansen suggested adding the web address for the Cannon River Watershed Partnership.*

## **Review Riverfront Enhancement Study**

*Staff asked the commission to provide high level comments on the Riverfront Enhancement Study.*

*The commission spoke in favor of a regional park designation and trail connectivity.*

*Chair Smith also added the EQC is very interested in flood mitigation, less lawn/more vegetation, wild land aesthetic, creating more high quality habitat and dam reconstruction.*

## **V. Reports and Discussion Items**

**5. [20-467](#)** Staff Updates & Commissioner Comments

**Attachments:** [1 - CAP Implementation Work Group Update Sept 2020](#)

- a) **Commissioner Comments and Reports**
- b) **Staff Updates and Reports**
- c) **Comments from the Chair**

*B. Nowak reported he and B. Kallestad met with the sub group of the Planning Commission to talk about collaboration and shared interest with regards to the Land Development Code and potential Comprehensive Plan revisions.*

*Chair Smith asked commission members to review the current Comp Plan and LDC and come up with 2-3 priorities from their working groups to be discussed at the October meeting.*

*C. Hansen noted there will be a waste sort at DSI on September 23rd from 11-1 for anyone who is interested.*

**WORKING GROUP UPDATES:**

*-Materials and Waste - Finalizing Zero Waste Plan, reviewing grant possibilities for compost processing facility equipment.*

*-Transportation - will meet with Public Works Director to discuss grand opening of roundabout and positive views of bike lanes.*

## **VI. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Board Member Petri, seconded by Board Member Hansen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Petri, Board Member Hansen, Board Member Nowak, Board Member Smith, Board Member Turner and Board Member Anderson