



Legislation Text

File #: 19-901, **Version:** 1

DATE: June 6, 2019

TO: Members of the Northfield Heritage Preservation Commission

FROM: Scott Tempel, City Planner

Commissioner Board Tracking Reports

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTED:

The HPC is provided with information regarding other City Boards and Commissions.

BACKGROUND:

The HPC voted to have its members track the activities of certain other City of Northfield Boards and Commissions. Attached is a report on the Arts and Culture Commission from Alice Thomas.

A report from Jan Gilblom on the Economic Development Authority and the Environmental Quality Commission follows:

EDA

The Economic Development Authority approved three major projects during their April and May meetings.

- 1) To engage the consulting firm of Strong & Starlike to determine barriers to entry and operation for minority business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs in Northfield. The \$5K - 10K study is to begin in July and conclude in October. Deliverables include information gathering, the design and facilitation of a community listening session, and actionable recommendations incorporating community voices and focused on vendor inclusion laws, policies, programs, and compliance.
- 2) To grant a \$5,000 microgrant to Contented College, LLC, a B&B located in the foothills of St. Olaf. The B&B currently operates with two rooms but wishes to finish out a third space that can be used by overnight lodgers or as a meeting venue.
- 3) To grant a \$50,000 Citywide Revolving Loan to Secure Base Counseling. The loan (payable over 240 months at 5.5%) will provide gap financing to enable Secure Base to purchase the building next to their current facility. The additional building will house their "wellness center" in which mental health nurse practitioners will provide psychiatric (medication) services and nutritionists will provide guidance on healthy food and lifestyle. Holistic approach centers such as this are fairly rare in southern MN.

CAPAB

The CAPAB's Energy subcommittee held their fifth and final workshop on April 3. This subcommittee, comprised of community residents and professionals partnered with Xcel's Partners in Energy program, is tasked with drafting an Energy Action Plan for Northfield. The Plan will guide Northfield in educating and empowering its residents and government to tackle issues related to climate change and its threats (natural disasters, financial impacts, etc.) and its opportunities (employment of emerging technologies, potential energy savings, partnerships, etc.) Northfield's Energy Plan will identify quantifiable targets that align with the goals of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Northfield's Comprehensive Plan. The next steps are for this preliminary Plan to be reviewed by members of the CAPAB at their June 5th meeting and by members of the Environmental Quality Commission at their June 13th meeting. Depending on the readiness of the Plan, it will be presented to City Council on July 2nd or 16th.

RECOMMENDATION:

Here is the suggested process for HPC liaisons to other boards to follow:

- a) Liaisons turn in written summary paragraphs of board meetings/actions they are tracking to staff at least 10 days prior to the HPC meeting.
- b) Reports are attached to agenda item for the next meeting so all members get all information.
- c) At the meeting each board liaison may, if necessary, raise or highlight an issue that pertains to the HPC during board member comments.