



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

March 14, 2023

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Ave N.E.

MINUTES

Call to Order

Chair Amy Dritz called the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Amy Dritz

Sam Stoxen

Nick Olberding

Justin Foell

Aaron Klemz

Absent: Heidi Ferris, Mark Hansen

Others Present: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Klemz to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Olberding. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of February 7, 2023 Environmental Quality and Energy Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Klemz to approve the February 7, 2023 meeting minutes. seconded by Commissioner Stoxen. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

2. Recodification of Chapter 105 Landscape Maintenance to Chapter 304 Landscape Maintenance

Motion by Commissioner Klemz to approve this item with the addition of a definition for "naturalized" to ensure that plants falling within that definition provide the same ecological function as native plants. Seconded by Commissioner Stoxen. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Recodification of Chapter 104 Tree Maintenance to Chapter 319 Tree Maintenance

Commissioner Foell noted that the phrase "City Clerk" was maintained in the chapter. Motion by Commissioner Klemz to approve this item. Seconded by Commissioner Foell. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Ethylene Oxide from Commercial Sterilizers

Ms. Workin provided background on ethylene oxide emissions from commercial sterilizers.

Old Business

5. Grant Updates

Ms. Workin shared that the City received grant funding for the street sweepings screener, Apex Pond, and the 61st Avenue Parklet.

6. Event and Outreach updates

Ms. Workin shared that the HRA open house was very successful. She also said that the City was planning to offer native plants as part of the 2023 Tree Sale.

7. Energy Action Plan updates

Ms. Workin shared that the City presented the SolSmart bronze award to the City Council on February 27. She also said that the WindUp Challenge had started March 1, and while she hadn't seen a lot of sign ups, people may be enrolling without completing the City's form. A citywide mailer would be going out in the next couple of weeks which should also increase participation. Ms. Workin shared that the City was awarded most rebates received per capita for 2022 of the 26 cities that partner with Xcel Energy.

Other Items

8. Informal Status Reports

Ms. Workin reminded the Commissioners of the appreciation dinner on April 17. Commissioner Foell shared that a local kayaking group was planning a clean up event on Rice Creek and would share more information as available. Commissioner Foell also asked for more information to be provided. Commissioner Foell shared that he has been seeing a bill credit from Xcel Energy for participation in renewable energy programs. Commissioner Klemz said that he has been looking into models for city ordinances related to building deconstruction. He shared that Milwaukee and Portland have ordinances

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Stoxen to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Olberding. The Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.