

Falcon Heights Environment Commission
June 11, 2012
Agenda

- 1) Approval of Minutes of April 9 2012
- 2) Urban Beekeeping
Guest Speaker: Gary Reuter, Apiary Technician, University of Minnesota Bee Lab
- 3) Mercury Standards Update – Mayor Lindstrom/Staff
- 4) Prairie Garden Update - Staff
- 5) Information and Announcements



Falcon Heights Environment Commission

ITEM: Beekeeping in the City
SUBMITTED BY: Deborah Jones, Staff Liaison

Description:

Mayor Lindstrom asked staff to prepare the Environment Commission for discussion on whether the City might take measures to allow beekeeping in residential neighborhoods of Falcon Heights.

Gary Reuter, a scientist at the University of Minnesota Bee Lab has accepted an invitation to give a presentation to the Commission this evening.

Speaker Background – Gary Reuter:

A long time hobby beekeeper and trained in technology education, Gary began working with Marla when she moved to Minnesota in 1993. Without his hard work, the program would not be what it is today. He maintains the research colonies, helps train and work with students in the field, designs and builds specialty equipment and speaks to beekeeping, student and civic groups. He plans the Extension short courses and together with Marla teaches beginning as well as experienced beekeepers. His humorous style of teaching helps the classes stay interested and enthusiastic about a sometimes challenging subject. He is a past president of both Minnesota Hobby Beekeepers Association and Wisconsin Honey Producers Association and director of the American Beekeeping Federation, and remains active in these groups. He still finds time to manage his own colonies, while learning to blacksmith, maintaining an orchard, and helping his wife raise sheep.

Attachments: None

Commissioners may wish to prepare by visiting the following web resources:

<http://www.thedailygreen.com/environmental-news/latest/diy-backyard-beekeeping-47031701>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/19/urban-beekeeping-for-begins-415082.html>

ACTION REQUESTED:

- Advise staff on resources requested for additional discussion