

City of Falcon Heights
Environment Commission
City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue W.
Monday, June 8, 2020
6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Wassenberg called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Members present: Mathwig, Seth, and De Filippo Vanncci, Wassenberg, McCleery, and Bucholtz

Also present: Council Liaison Andrews, Staff Liaison Markon

Members absent: Olson

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 9, 2020 and May 11, 2020

McCleery moved, seconded by Mathwig to approve minutes for March 9, 2020 and May 11, 2020

D. AGENDA

a. Discuss Sustainable Speaker Series

- i. The commission members discussed the possibility of holding a yard ordinance workshop.
- ii. The commission members discussed having a member attend a Lawns to Legumes workshop this Thursday supported by the City of Shoreview to gauge interest and determine if Falcon Heights should host one for their city. The Commission determined the benefit to hosting a workshop is that the presenters from Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) can discuss the yard ordinance specific to Falcon Heights. The Commission members discussed the possibility of a workshop series depending on how the first event goes.

- b. Discuss garden ordinance process
 - i. Commission members discussed the recently approved interim ordinance prohibiting front yard vegetable gardens. The commission members were informed that a new ordinance that addresses front yard and community gardens would need to be developed. A subcommittee with members from Environment and Planning Commission will work diligently to write a new ordinance. The Commission decided the new ordinance would need to address the following: volume of gardens, number of things allowed in garden, use restrictions, location restrictions, and space restrictions. Commissioner Wassenberg volunteered to be on the subcommittee, and Mathwig and Olson are tentatively on the subcommittee.

E. NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Annual Ice Cream Social event is planned to take place in person in Community Park on Thursday July 23 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.
 - i. Plan to have tables for all commissions like usual
- b. MPCA grant process for EV stations requests for proposals will be in the Summer and Fall of 2020 for rapid charging along highways and level, 2 respectively.
- c. Bee keeping ordinance updates
 - i. Markon said that he can ask Gary from University of Minnesota to attend July meeting in order to review and discuss a beekeeping ordinance.
- d. Starting in July, Commission meetings will resume in person.
- e. Environment Corner updates
 - i. Seth posted about biking last Friday.
 - ii. McCleery's post on rainfall and climate change is next.

F. ADJOURN

- a. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45p.m.