

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, January 8, 2024
6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL: Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair) _A_
 John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) _X_ Jared Mehlhaff _A_
 Emma Kostecki _A_ Amy Christiansen _X_
 Pedro De Filippo Vannucci _A_ Stephanie Skarolid _A_

 Staff Liaison Lynch _X_

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Pellegrini made a motion to approve the agenda. Agenda was approved by consent.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 13, 2023

Vice-Chair Pellegrini made a motion to approve the minutes from November 13, 2023. Minutes were approved by consent.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2024 Officer Nominations

This agenda item was tabled to the February 12, 2024 meeting due to the current Chair being absent.

2. 2024 Schedule & Priorities

Commissioners discussed the 2024 schedule and priorities. Priorities included EVs, Partners in Energy, green Community Park features, city trees, and greenifying Falcon Heights.

3. Nature Newsflash Discussion

Staff Liaison Lynch shared a list of upcoming potential Nature Newsflash articles for commissioner to volunteer to write for the City's newsletter. Additional potential articles were suggested about birds, leaves in the fall, and a series on the top five most effective ways to become more environmentally-friendly in your daily life.

4. BizRecycling Update

Staff Liaison Lynch shared an update from Foth and WasteWise about the BizRecycling campaign that was pushed out in the summer and throughout the fall. A letter to businesses was initially sent by the City with a flyer about BizRecycling, then representatives from WasteWise contacted these businesses. Overall, there were 63 outreach contacts to 25 different businesses, and 8 site visits were performed. A final memo and report will be provided by Foth in the near future.

5. Partners in Energy Update

Staff Liaison Lynch gave a brief update on Partners in Energy. The first Open House will take place on February 21, 2024 at City Hall at 6 PM. Snacks and beverages will be provided by Partners in Energy, preferably from a local restaurant. The next workshop will be on March 20, 2024 at 6 PM with the location to be determined, and the second Open House/3rd workshop will take place on April 27, 2024 at 6 PM with the location to be determined.

6. City Code Updates – Electric Vehicles

Staff Liaison Lynch went over updates in City Code to allow electric vehicle charging stations. These updates are required for the EV Smart Cities program to attain bronze status. Updates will be sent to the Planning Commission for review before going to City Council.

F. Information and Announcements

1. Staff Liaison Report – *None.*
2. Council Liaison Report – *None.*

G. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next regular meeting date: February 12, 2024