

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, May 12, 2025
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL:

Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair)	_X_	
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair)	_X_	Sophie Nagel _X_
Pedro De Filippo Vannucci	_X_	VACANT
Adam Keester	_A_	VACANT

Staff Liaison Lynch _X_
Council Liaison Mielke _X_
GreenCorps Member Siebert _X_

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chair Pellegrini made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed by consent.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. April 14, 2025

Vice-Chair Pellegrini made a motion to approve the April 14, 2025 minutes. Motion passed by consent.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Sustainability Fair Update – Olivia Siebert

GreenCorps Member Siebert gave an overview on the outcome of the Sustainability Fair that was held on April 26, 2025. Ultimately it was a huge success. There were several takeaways regarding larger signage, a volunteer meeting prior to the event, and snack availability. Siebert has created a document outlining her process for planning the event and the different organizations she contacted, who responded/attended, who dropped out at the last minute, and the vendors that were used for paper shredding, textile recycling, and e-waste recycling for Staff and Commissioners to utilize for the event next year.

2. Energy Action Plan Update

Staff Liaison Lynch gave an update on the progress GreenCorps Member Siebert has made on the implementation of the Energy Action Plan since the beginning of her service

term. Outreach to residents, renters, and landlord has been completed but should be considered an ongoing task. She asked for Commissioners to look through the implementation plan and, should they feel strongly about any task/goal, to consider taking that on. She explained this would need to be continued by Commissioners and Staff with GreenCorps Member Siebert's service term coming to an end in August.

3. Tree Update – Olivia Siebert

GreenCorps Member Siebert performed a demonstration of the resident tree map she has created for the website. This is intended as a way for residents to map their front and back yard trees (outside of the boulevard), share a picture, and possibly a story about the trees. She stated the goal is to have the map live on the website by the Spring Together event this weekend, May 17, 2025. It will be shared with residents there and a QR code will be handed out to encourage residents to look at the map and hopefully fill it out.

4. GreenCorps Projects Discussion

GreenCorps Member Siebert explained to Commissioners about the current status of the program. AmeriCorps funding has been cut so she is no longer an AmeriCorps member, but the State of Minnesota will provide funding for the GreenCorps program through the end of June at least, and hopefully through the end of the term in August, pending the state budget. With the cut in funding, the education funding she would receive from the program has been prorated for the time served under AmeriCorps and health insurance will end at the end of May.

As her term begins to wrap up in August, she and Staff Liaison Lynch have requested small project ideas from Commissioners for her to complete before then. Council Liaison Mielke suggested a pollinator lawns and garden tour for residents around the end of June. Chair Mercer-Taylor also discussed the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District and their tire program, and another Commissioner mentioned the Cap Region Watershed District's rain garden program.

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: June 9, 2025