

City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, June 9, 2025
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL:

Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair)	<u>X</u>	Georgiana May	<u>X</u>
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair)	<u>X</u>	VACANT	
Adam Keester	<u>X</u>	VACANT	
Sophie Nagel	<u>X</u>		
Staff Liaison Lynch	<u>X</u>		
Council Liaison Mielke	<u>A</u>		
GreenCorps Member Siebert	<u>A</u>		

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Nagel made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed by consent.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. May 12, 2025

Commissioner Nagel made a motion to approve the May 12, 2025 minutes. Motion passed by consent.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. CamerAn Bailey – Urban Agriculture Coordinator, Ramsey County

CamerAn Bailey from Ramsey County was in attendance to discuss Ramsey County's strategic priority and plan for advancing food security and urban agriculture, resources the County currently has available, and share the work plan for the year. Bailey stated the main priorities are to support food safety net systems, increase access to public benefits, build urban agriculture, and expand food availability and affordability.

Resources provided by Ramsey County for starting or expanding community gardens and urban farms include free compost, mulch, and soil, technical help, education, and volunteer support, grant funding opportunities and land access resources, and excess produce donation sites. The Urban Agriculture department is also in the process of developing a Municipal Code Review Tool which will allow different cities to look

through their city code to determine if they are allowing their residents to create these gardening spaces.

Bailey and the Commissioners discussed foraging, looking to Vadnais Heights and their foraging ordinance, and the possibility of allowing this in the City of Falcon Heights.

2. Community Park Landscaping

Staff Liaison Lynch presented the landscaping plan for the Community Park renovation and requested Commissioners look through the plants and trees proposed and provide feedback to her no later than noon on Friday, June 13. She explained GreenCorps Member Siebert included an overview of the plants being proposed which is in their packets for easier reference.

3. Garden Tours

Commissioner Keester spoke about the upcoming Lawn and Garden Tours he and Council Liaison Mielke have arranged. They will take place on July 19 from 9 AM to 12 PM which is the same date as the Lawns to Legumes Garden Tours. Staff will assist with collecting host sign-ups, creating a map of the tour, and creating lawn signs. Staff Liaison Lynch mentioned adding the City Hall rain garden to the tour and including a QR code on the sign for people to access information on it. It was discussed that this could also be an option for hosts who would like to participate in the tour and would like to not be at home.

F. Information and Announcements

1. Staff Liaison Report – *Staff Liaison Lynch spoke about the potential sale of the proposed Amber Flats property, explained the City was awarded the Solar on Public Buildings grant, discussed paying commissioners, reminded commissioners of the upcoming Ice Cream Social on July 17 from 5-7 PM, discussed the golf course sale, and reminded commissioners of the resident tree map.*

2. Council Liaison Report – *None.*

G. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Next regular meeting date: July 14, 2025