

City of Falcon Heights
Joint Meeting
Environment Commission
Parks & Recreation Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

AGENDA

Monday, February 2, 2026
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL:	Adam Keester (Chair) <input type="checkbox"/>	David Smith <input type="checkbox"/>
	John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) <input type="checkbox"/>	Beth Mercer-Taylor <input type="checkbox"/>
	Nuz Sanidad (Secretary) <input type="checkbox"/>	Erica Bjelland <input type="checkbox"/>
	Monika Chandler <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Eric Brenton (Chair) <input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Haight <input type="checkbox"/>
	Tom Faust (Vice-Chair) <input type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Buckridge <input type="checkbox"/>
	Joe Morseth (Secretary) <input type="checkbox"/>	Naomi Loud Heinsch <input type="checkbox"/>
	Staff Liaison Lynch <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Staff Liaison Nelson <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Council Liaison May <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Council Liaison Gustafson <input type="checkbox"/>	

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 12, 2026

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. In Common Commission Goals
2. Weatherization Workshop / Sustainability Fair Update

F. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Liaison Report
2. Council Liaison Report

G. ADJOURN

Next regular meeting date: March 9, 2026



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	February 2, 2026
Agenda Item	E1
Attachment	Community Garden Overview
Submitted By	Kelly Nelson, Administrative Services Director/Deputy Clerk

Item	Discussion of In Common Goals between the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Environment Commission
Description	<p>One of the identified Parks Commission's goals for 2026 is to share annual goals with other commissions to foster collaboration and support common goals. Then, more specifically, to work with the Environment Commission for Community Garden expansion.</p> <p>Because the Environment Commission has also previously expressed interest in expanding the city's available garden plots, the two commissions are brought together to collaborate on this subject and potential upcoming park projects that may have overlap and be of interest to both commissions.</p>
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	Community Garden Overview
Action(s) Requested	Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Environment Commission have a collaborative discussion to suggest recommendations regarding the possible expansion of Community Garden plots and potential future park projects.

Community Garden Wait List Overview

We have 38 garden plots at Community Park, which are approximately 10' x 12' in size.

Currently:

- 20 are gardened by FH residents
- 16 are non-FH residents
- 2 plots are currently unassigned and will open to a lottery entry on 2/4.

Up until this year, we maintained a waiting list. This year, we will move to a lottery system, which opens on February 4. The lottery system should better determine current interest, as there are 13 people that were added to the wait list between 2022 and 2025 who were offered a plot and then never responded. A few of them said “Yes, but not now; check back again.” It requires considerable staff time to determine who actually still resides in Falcon Heights, and who still has an interest in a plot during any given year.

There are currently 21 names on our wait list.

-7 are existing gardeners who want a second plot. It was determined years back that no second plots would be granted until all those waiting for their first plot were given one.

- 4 are Falcon Heights residents
- 3 are from non-FH residents.

Of the remaining 14 requests:

- 1 is a Falcon Heights resident
- The other 13 are non-FH residents (St. Anthony, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Roseville, and Lauderdale).

These names were added to the wait list from 2023 through 2025, so it's unclear how many would still have interest in a garden plot today.



REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	February 2, 2026
Agenda Item	E-2
Attachment	N/A
Submitted By	Hannah Lynch, Community Development Coordinator / Planner

Item	Weatherization Workshop / Sustainability Fair Update
Description	<p>Staff Liaison Lynch recently met with the Partners in Energy team to discuss a potential upcoming Weatherization Workshop. PIE will be able to run the workshop, but concerns have come up over attendance with current events. As such, PIE will hold the workshop as one of the two “talks” at the Sustainability Fair.</p> <p>Other Sustainability Fair Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tablers- Volunteer Shifts- What else?
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	Staff requests Environment Commission discuss Weatherization Workshop and updates to the Sustainability Fair.