

**City of Falcon Heights
Environment Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2012**

Present: Commissioners Diane Ross, Brian Goodspeed, Peggy Hall, Nina Semmelroth, Mayor Peter Lindstrom, Deb Jones (Staff).

Absent: Jeff Connell, Rebecca Montgomery, Ethan Wagner, Isaac Mielke

1. At 6:30, those present were conducted to the roof of City Hall to view the solar photovoltaic installation in progress. The installation is mostly complete. Public Works expects to “throw the switch” sometime next month.
2. **Model Beekeeping Ordinance.** Staff provided a map and chart showing the status of beekeeping in communities of Ramsey County. Only two cities, St. Paul and Lauderdale, allow bees by permit. Six communities, including Falcon Heights, prohibit beekeeping in residential zones. Seven do not address it in their codes. Two had not been heard from in time.

Commissioners finished going over the model ordinance. They are in favor of requiring a permit, beekeeper training and neighbor approval, similar to the Minneapolis ordinance. A draft will be provided next month for final recommendation.

3. **Recycling.** Staff liaison Deb Jones presented an overview of Ramsey County’s “report card” on Falcon Heights recycling and an update on coming state EPA requirements for 2016. On the whole, we do well, but there is potential for improvement, such as business and event recycling. Grant money is available for innovative recycling ideas. Commissioners were asked to think about it and bring ideas next month.
4. **Sustainability Workshops.** The City was approached by professors and students at the UM to sponsor these opportunities for residents to learn ways to make our communities more sustainable. The dates are October 11 and November 1. Everyone is invited! Co-sponsor are Lauderdale and St. Anthony. Time and location information will be posted on the City website.
5. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at about 8:30 p.m.

