City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission Meeting Minutes February 10, 2014

Present: Commissioners Isaac Mielke, Brian Goodspeed, Patti Holmes, Peggy Hall, Nathan Thorvilson, Councilmember Beth Mercer-Taylor, Staff Liaison Deb Jones

Absent: Rebecca Montgomery (on sabbatical), Jeff Connell

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 by Commissioner Holmes. A quorum was present. January minutes were corrected to show that Patti will serve as Chair for 2014.
- 2. **Community POWER Grant** Since the agenda was released, Deb looked up the last time the Commission discussed applying for this grant. In order to be eligible, the Environment Commission would have to partner with a school or non-profit, and the time frame is very short for putting together a partnership and a project. Commissioners discussed ideas for a possible project. Beth suggested that everyone look at the Community Education Toolkit on the grant website.

3. Information and Announcements

- **a.** Beth reported on the MN350 Meeting she attended. MN350 is a climate change group. She also reported on the Metropolitan Energy Policy Coalition meeting February 6 and will share a memo she is writing on it. She said there will be further opportunities to get involved, and communities and citizens need to hold officials to account on these issues.
- **b.** Deb shared information on solar leasing, an alternate way to finance a solar energy installation on your roof.
- **c.** Peggy announced the Living Smarter Home and Garden Fair at Fairview Community Center on February 15. See the flyer in the Roseville Review
- **d.** Beth told Commissioners about the Frontiers in the Environment lectures on campus every Wednesday from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Information at environment.umn.edu. She will send links for this and other sites of interest.
- **e.** Deb gave an update on the former Hermes site.
- 4. **Adjournment**. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:43 p.m.