

# City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall  
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, April 10, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:34 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:           Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair) \_X\_  
                              John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) \_X\_           Jared Mehlhaff \_X\_  
                              Emma Kostecki \_X\_                               Amy Christiansen \_A\_  
                              Pedro De Filippo Vannucci \_X\_               Stephanie Skarolid \_X\_

Council Liaison Meyer \_X\_  
Staff Liaison Lynch \_X\_

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 13, 2023
2. March 13, 2023

*Commissioner Kostecki made a motion to approve the minutes from February 13, 2023 and March 13, 2023. With one correction on the February 13, 2023 minutes noted by Commissioner Pellegrini, Commissioner Mehlhaff seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor.*

E. AGENDA

1. Welcome to New Member, Stephanie Skarolid  
*Chair Mercer-Taylor welcomed new member, Stephanie Skarolid, to the Environment Commission. We are happy to have her join us and provide her insight into environmental concerns and issues in the city.*
2. Xcel Energy - Partners in Energy Program  
*Chair Mercer-Taylor gave an overview of the Xcel Energy Partners in Energy Program. The Commission discussed applying for this program and utilizing it as a Climate Action Plan. The Commission requested Liaison Lynch speak with the City Administrator about scheduling a presentation by the Xcel Energy team to City Council for May 10. Commissioners went through the application questions and Liaison Lynch stated she would formalize the answers and bring them to the next Environment Commission meeting for approval for submission if City Council is in favor after the presentation.*

3. BizRecycling & WasteWise Program Discussion

*Chair Mercer-Taylor discussed the WasteWise program and using it in conjunction with BizRecycling. She stated the program is organized by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce for Minnesota Chamber members and businesses in Anoka, Ramsey, Scott and Washington counties. Liaison Lynch mentioned she met with staff members from Foth Infrastructure and Environmental who provide technical assistance to Ramsey County. They stated they are able to help with the BizRecycling effort and in the past have worked with WasteWise to accomplish this. Liaison Lynch stated she is going to be providing a list of contacts for businesses in Falcon Heights and Foth will be contacting Ramsey County to make sure they are still able to partner with WasteWise. After this, Foth will assist with contacting businesses in the city about recycling.*

F. Information and Announcements

1. **Staff Liaison Report** – *Liaison Lynch provided an update on the proposed Caribou Coffee next to Amber Union Apartments. She stated the Planning Commission voted to recommend denial of the proposal to City Council, but Council will have the ultimate decision.*

*Commissioners asked about upcoming events such as Spring Together and the Ice Cream Social. Spring Together is on May 20 and the commission would like to attend with a table or some sort of set up to answer questions about recycling and environmental concerns. Commissioners also discussed holding a Ride and Drive event as part of the Ice Cream Social.*

2. **Council Liaison Report** – *None.*

G. Adjourn

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.*

*Next regular meeting date: May 8, 2022*