



SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, February 18, 2016

6:30 p.m.

Coon Rapids City Center

Conference Room 3

Call to Order

Roll Call

Adopt Agenda

AI-3406 Minutes

Old Business

0. AI-3407 APWA Award Application
1. AI-3408 Green Expo Update
2. AI-3409 Native Plant update

New Business

0. AI-3410 Coon Creek Watershed Grant
1. AI-3411 MN GreenStep City Grant

Other Business

Adjourn



Sustainability Commission - Regular

Meeting Date: 02/18/2016

SUBJECT: Minutes

Attachments

01/21/2016

COON RAPIDS SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 21, 2016

The January 21, 2016 meeting of the Sustainability Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Stacey Demmer at the Coon Rapids City Hall.

Sustainability Members Present: Stacey Demmer, Rebecca Holmlund, Bob Krahn, Ed Dedman, Marcia Baudino, Christy Lamoreaux, Chris Backes and Tim Lockrem

Members Absent: Steven Pedersen

Staff Present: Colleen Sinclair and Amanda Bednar

Others Present: Ben, representing the local group interested in chickens in Coon Rapids
John Anderson Community Coordinator with Conservation Minnesota. He was interested in listening in to topics discussed by the group, works with local group on various topics including energy, water quality, policy organization and more.

1. ACCEPT AGENDA

Motion by Colleen Sinclair, to amend the agenda to include discussion on the Sustainability Practices Awarded. Item added and motion by Christy Lamoreaux, seconded by Marcia Baudino, to accept agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Christy Lamoreaux, seconded by Rebecca Holmlund, to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2015 Sustainability Commission meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Chicken/native grass update

Commission members were given first unofficial draft of the code drafted by the City Attorney which is being reviewed by City staff and will go back to a council workshop before first reading by city council. City staff would also like Ben and his group of residents to review the first draft and provide comments. The official first draft will be completed soon. Members discussed some issues with the unofficial draft but overall were pleased with the progress. Bob Krahn requested to know whether the commission would provide official vote on their recommendation once the ordinance is complete, Colleen Sinclair to look into this and Commission's continuing role in the process. Education process was discussed including literature, classes available and coop tours for residents interested in chickens if the ordinance is passed. Native plant update- city staff from numerous departments continues to discuss best option including possible pilot program. Native plants are planned for new park projects. Staff has stressed importance of clear guidelines and training to ensure success of any changes made to current long grass/weed ordinance. More information to come at the next meeting after city staff meets to discuss further and continue to move the process along.

4. Green Expo update

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April 23rd Green Expo was discussed- currently have about 25 applications, working to get more vendors, activities and new ideas for this year. Commission members discussed their involvement with the event as volunteers but also providing education to residents on topics of interest to the Commission. Possible topics discussed were drinking water campaigns, organics, backyard composting, water taste test and energy conservation topics/items. Commission expressed interest in recognition program for residents/businesses that are committed to sustainability and incorporating a possible new program at the Expo. The Park and Rec department brochure was discussed and Marcia Baudino is considering offering classes on local food and gardening again in 2016.

5. Sustainability Report

Staff has requested that Commission continue to work on updating the Sustainability Report focusing on water which was previously started. Rebecca Holmlund will continue to work on this and update others as progress is made. Incorporating the McKinstry lighting study and B3 energy tracking data was also mentioned as possible additions.

6. Community Cleanup options

City Council has directed staff to look into possible city clean up events and options were discussed with Commission members to meet needs to residents. Areas of concern include elderly residents or those who cannot move items on their own and large trash items. Ideas included vouchers, encourage taking advantage of recycling options, utilizing trash haulers and educating residents about existing options.

7. Multi-unit recycling update

GreenCorps member Tanya Feldkamp continues to work with multi-units to improve recycling and has completed auditing all buildings in the city. She will now provide comments, a scoring system and educational options for buildings to make improvements. There are no plans for organics in these buildings at this time.

8. Organic recycling in City buildings

Organics recycling collection is present at Bunker Hills Golf course (has been since summer 2015) and now the Coon Rapids Ice Center (as of January 2016). Staff has worked to organize purchasing of compostable items and setting up appropriate collection systems. Plans to add organics in other city buildings are being worked on as well. Commission is pleased with this expansion and providing an example to the community regarding organics and sustainability practices.

9. Other Business

APWA Sustainability Award: National award that Coon Rapids will be submitting an application for which recognizes cities commitment to sustainability.

Alliance of Sustainability Workshop: Event will be held Tuesday, January 26th at the Coon Rapids Civic Center, those available will be attending the event.

10. Adjourn

Motion by Ed Dedman, seconded by Christy Lamoreaux, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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Sustainability Commission - Regular

0.

Meeting Date: 02/18/2016

Subject: APWA Award Application

From: Colleen Sinclair, Recycling Coordinator



Sustainability Commission - Regular

1.

Meeting Date: 02/18/2016

Subject: Green Expo Update

From: Colleen Sinclair, Recycling Coordinator



Sustainability Commission - Regular

2.

Meeting Date: 02/18/2016

Subject: Native Plant update

From: Colleen Sinclair, Recycling Coordinator



Sustainability Commission - Regular

0.

Meeting Date: 02/18/2016

Subject: Coon Creek Watershed Grant

From: Colleen Sinclair, Recycling Coordinator



Sustainability Commission - Regular

1.

Meeting Date: 02/18/2016

Subject: MN GreenStep City Grant

From: Colleen Sinclair, Recycling Coordinator
