

**Minnetonka Sustainability Commission  
Virtual Meeting  
Minutes**

**May 11, 2021**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Sustainability commissioners Justin Anderson, Edwin Avalos, Greta Beck, Brian Golob, Matt Henry, David Ingraham, Harapanahalli Muralidhara, Megan Park, and Ashley Pattain were present.

Staff present: Community Development Director Julie Wischnack, City Planner Loren Gordon, and Staff Liaison Drew Ingvalson.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Golob moved, second by Henry, to approve the agenda as submitted.

Anderson, Avalos, Beck, Golob, Henry, Ingraham, Muralidhara, Park, and Pattain voted yes. Motion carried.

**4. Approval of Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes: None**

**5. Report from Staff**

Ingvalson, Wischnack, and Gordon introduced themselves and thanked commissioners for their service.

**6. Report from Sustainability Commission Members**

Sustainability commissioners introduced themselves.

**7. Agenda Items**

**A. Sustainability Commission Bylaws**

Ingvalson reported. He recommended approval of the sustainability commission bylaws provided in the staff report.

Ingraham moved, second by Avalos, to approve the sustainability commission bylaws provided in the staff report.

Anderson, Avalos, Beck, Golob, Henry, Ingraham, Muralidhara, Park, and Pattain voted yes. Motion carried.

**B. 2021 Sustainability Commission Meeting Dates**

Ingvalson reported. He recommended approval of the 2021 sustainability commission meeting dates provided in the staff report.

Pattain moved, second by Anderson, to approve the 2021 sustainability commission meeting dates as May 11, 2021, July 13, 2021, Sept. 14, 2021, and Nov. 9, 2021.

Anderson, Avalos, Beck, Golob, Henry, Ingraham, Muralidhara, Park, and Pattain voted yes. Motion carried.

**C. 2021 Work Plan**

Ingvalson reported. He recommended that the sustainability commission review and recommend that the city council approve the 2021 work plan as provided in the staff report.

In response to Ingraham's question, Ingvalson explained that commissioners would receive the agenda packet prior to each meeting to allow time for commissioners to review the items to be discussed before the next meeting.

Henry identified that it is important to find ways to include and engage residents who applied to be on the commission but were not given the opportunity to serve. Ingvalson noted that, in order to do so, this would not need to be added to the formal work plan but could be something to consider as opportunities arise.

Muralidhara asked for the best procedure for commissioners to submit ideas for the sustainability commission to review. Ingvalson welcomed ideas to be submitted to staff.

In response to Golob's question, Wishnack stated that staff could send each sustainability commission applicant an email to direct the resident to the project page on **minnetonkamn.gov** where he or she could sign up to receive alerts and provide input for each item reviewed by the commission.

Golob moved, second by Beck, to recommend that the city council approve the 2021 sustainability commission work plan as provided in the staff report.

Anderson, Avalos, Beck, Golob, Henry, Ingraham, Muralidhara, Park, and Pattain voted yes. Motion carried.

**D. Ambassador Events**

Ingvalson reported. He recommended that sustainability commissioners review the recommended events, provide his or her level of interest in attending the events to staff, and sign-up for the ones he or she will attend. All state health and safety guidelines will be followed at the events.

In response to Park's question, Ingvalson encouraged commissioners to sign-up for one or two events.

Henry moved, second by Golob, to approve the list of sustainability commissioner ambassador events.

Anderson, Avalos, Beck, Golob, Henry, Ingraham, Muralidhara, Park, and Pattain voted yes. Motion carried.

### **E. Sustainability Commission Learning Opportunities**

Ingvalson reported. He recommended that sustainability commissioners review the list of learning opportunities, provide any additional learning opportunities he or she is interested in and provide his or her top two choices to be done in 2021.

Anderson suggested touring a recycling center.

Avalos suggested learning about and visiting sustainability projects being done in other cities.

Golob suggested learning more about the Hennepin County Climate Action Plan and how that fits into the city's activities and touring the special-waste-recycling center that handles mercury and electronics located in Blaine.

Beck suggested a presentation on how stormwater impacts lakes and how to successfully restore lake ecosystems.

Muralidhara suggested visiting the water-treatment plant.

Henry suggested touring a passive house which harnesses natural energy sources to generate and capture heat.

Ingvalson asked commissioners to provide his or her top two learning opportunity choices:

- Anderson chose to tour the UMN Bee Lab and a recycling center.
- Avalos chose to tour the special-waste-recycling facility and a presentation on the impact of stormwater on lakes.
- Beck chose to tour the UMN Bee Lab and Hennepin County Energy Recovery Center.
- Golob chose a presentation on the Hennepin County Climate Action Plan and touring the special-waste-recycling facility.
- Henry chose to tour the UMN Bee Lab and a presentation on the impact of stormwater on lakes.

- Ingraham chose presentations on wetlands and the Hennepin County Climate Action Plan. He felt it would also be beneficial for commissioners to tour the city facilities.
- Muralidhara chose to tour the special-waste-recycling center and water-treatment facility.
- Park chose to tour the UMN Bee Lab and composting facility.
- Pattain chose to tour the UMN Bee Lab and recycling center.

#### **8. Other Business**

Ingvolson reported that the next sustainability commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 13, 2021. Staff will be emailing commissioners a sign-up sheet for commissioners to sign-up for ambassador events. Summerfest and the farmer's market ambassador events will take place before the next sustainability commission meeting.

Ingvolson invited commissioners to think about who to nominate at the next meeting to serve as chair and vice-chair of the commission. Staff will email the tree ordinance to commissioners before the agenda packet is emailed to allow commissioners more time to review it before the next meeting.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Pattain moved, second by Henry, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

By:

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Lois T. Mason  
Planning Secretary