

AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL: Greenberg, Hansen, Hanzel, Hart, Heid, Lyng, Pendaz-Foster, Presler, Myers
2. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
 - A. October 16, 2024 Sustainability Committee Minutes
3. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. A Conversation with City Manager Tim Sandvik
 - B. Swap, Don't Shop Event
 - C. Tree Lighting Event
4. OLD BUSINESS
5. INFORMATION ONLY
 - A. Geothermal Feasibility Study
 - B. Water Treatment Plant Solar Array
 - C. Sanborn Park Resilience Hub Planning Grant
 - D. Roundtable Updates
 - E. December Meeting
6. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

ROLL CALL

Present: Hansen, Hanelitz, Hart, Heid, Lyng, Myers, Pendaz-Foster, Presler

Absent: Greenberg

Staff: Kayla Kirtz, Sustainability Coordinator

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A. September 16, 2024 Sustainability Committee Minutes

Lyng motioned to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2024 Sustainability Committee meeting and Hansen seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Top 3 Priorities Discussion

Each member of the Sustainability Committee shared their top three priorities for the Committee. Kirtz kept a record of each priority and indicated when priorities were repeated by multiple members. Key topics included:

Transitioning to a Commission:

- Formalizing the group as an official city commission.
- Discussing potential commission structure, membership, and responsibilities.
- Reviewing other city sustainability commissions as models.
- Aiming to propose commission status to City Council in early 2025.

Education and Outreach:

- Creating educational materials and programs to inform residents about sustainability efforts.
- Developing a new resident sustainability information packet.
- Partnering with realtors to promote home energy audits.
- Utilizing various communication channels, including social media, newsletters, and direct mail.

Green Spaces and Lawn Alternatives:

- Promoting drought-resistant and pollinator-friendly landscaping.
- Encouraging alternatives to traditional grass lawns like clover.
- Partnering with local gardening groups.
- Incorporating native plants in city parks and spaces.

The Committee identified transitioning to a commission status, education/outreach, and green spaces/lawn

alternatives as the top three overall priorities to focus on initially.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

INFORMATION ONLY

Kirtz shared that the Home Energy Squad program was recently discussed with the Robbinsdale Economic Development Authority and they voiced support for continuing the program. All 50 of the free audits will likely be used this year. Audits will continue to be free for Robbinsdale residents in 2025.

Kirtz shared that climate resilience planning and implementation grant funding is available from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The city is considering applying for a planning grant for a resilience hub at Sanborn Park.

ADJOURNMENT

Kirtz adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.