

CITY OF FRANKLIN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2021

Approved
May 26, 2021

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

- I. Chairman Arthur Skowron called the April 28, 2021 regular meeting of the Environmental Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall, 9229 West Loomis Road, Franklin, Wisconsin.

On roll call, the following were in attendance: Chair Arthur Skowron, Vice Chair Linda Horn and Commissioners Patricia Pomahac, Jamie Groark, Sudarshan Sharma and James Cieslak. Also present was Associate Planner Marion Ecks. Alderman Dan Mayer participated remotely.

CITIZEN COMMENT

- II. The citizen comment period opened at 7:00 p.m. and closed at 7:15 p.m.. 2 citizens were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the special meeting of March 24, 2021.

III.

- A. Vice Chair Horn moved and Commissioner Cieslak seconded approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held March 24, 2021 as presented. On roll call vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Arbor Day, May 1, 2021; involvement of Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2001, program in Arbor Day celebration; Arbor Day event(s) planning, update on trees order and educational flyer on Buckthorn (invasive species).

Review of articles for the City of Franklin Newsletter, from the Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2001, program [this item/event is in process due to COVID-19 related restrictions], including educational materials for Buckthorn (invasive species), that is, website information and QR (Quick Response) code (a two-dimensional barcode used to share website links).

IV.

- A. Event to take place Saturday, May 1, 2021, from 10:00 am to noon at the Franklin Public Library. Discussion only. No action taken.
- B. Associate Planner Ecks reported an article on Buckthorn and references with be included in the next city newsletter due for delivery the week of July 19, 2021. Discussion only. No action taken.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources programs for presentation at the City of Franklin Library-dates/schedule [this item/event is in process due to COVID-19 related restrictions] update.

C. Discussion only. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

New state policy currently being considered:

SB 248, Modifications to the Electronic Recycling Program. This bill makes changes to the electronic waste recycling program, known as "E-Cycle Wisconsin," which is administered by the Department of Natural Resources. Specifically, SB 248 bill also requires DNR to create a new program to provide grants to expand electronics recycling and recovery programs in underserved areas of the state. Grants may be provided to local units of government, businesses, and nonprofit entities. *The League supports this bill.* Senator Cowles (R-Green Bay) and Representative Mursau (R-Crivitz).

V.

A. Discussion only. No action taken.

City of Franklin street tree list update-best list reviews.

B. Tom Riha, City Forester, not present. Discussion only. No action taken.

City of Franklin rain garden (2 at City Hall, 1 at City of Franklin public library) bed status.

C. Nan Calvert, Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network) participated remotely. Discussion only. No action taken.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

VI.

A. May 26, 2021

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

VII.

Environmental Commission involvement in the City of Franklin's National Night Out program 2021.

A. Associate Planner Ecks has an outside table reserved. Commissioner Groark will coordinate with Franklin Police Department for location.

Buckthorn-addition to noxious weed list update.

B. Nan Calvert, Root-Pike WIN has offered to help with Buckthorn eradication. The Commission will consider

formation of a subcommittee to develop buckthorn eradication standards at the next meeting.

Audubon Society new program on gardening for the birds, bees and butterflies update.

C. No update per Commissioner Cieslak.

ADJOURNMENT

Notice is given that upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information, please contact the Franklin City Clerk's office at (414) 425-7500.

VIII.

Commissioner Cieslak moved and Vice Chair Horn seconded to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting on April 28, 2021 at 8:20 p.m.. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).