

CITY OF FRANKLIN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 26, 2021

Approved
June 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

- I. Chairman Arthur Skowron called the May 26, 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, Alderman Dan Mayer and Commissioners Patricia Pomahač, Jamie Groark, Sudarshan Sharma and James Cieslak. Also present was Associate Planner Marion Ecks.

CITIZEN COMMENT

- II. The citizen comment period opened at 7:01 p.m. and closed at 7:06 p.m.. One citizen was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the special meeting of April 28, 2021.

III.

- A. Commissioner Cieslak moved and Alderman Mayer seconded approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held April 28, 2021 as presented. On roll call vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review of Arbor Day event on May 1, 2021.

IV.

- A. Turnout was very good; residents lined up before library opened. Tom Riha, City of Franklin Forester, and Pat Bruss, Wild Ones, were present along with Environmental Commission members to hand out tree saplings to Franklin residents. Suggestions for Arbor Day 2022:

- 1) have more shrubs available
- 2) patio planter trees would be a good idea for condo residents.

Discussion only. No action taken.

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

- B. The current June 2021 newsletter contains an article on Buckthorn identification and infestation along with resources containing additional information. Associate Planner Ecks reported Nan Calvert, Root-Pike, WIN will also have future articles. The next newsletter deadline is June 18 with July 19, 2021 as delivery date. Discussion only. No action taken.

two-dimensional barcode used to share website links).
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].

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

NEW BUSINESS

Natural Resource Features Special Exception application by Croatian Eagles Soccer Club, (Federation of Croatian Societies, Inc., property owner) for the purpose of allowing for grading of approximately 0.05 acres of wetland buffer and 0.19 acres of wetland setback, and installation of stormwater facilities (west of the turf field), for conversion of the existing grass soccer field into a 230 foot by 355 foot artificial turf soccer field, and installation of additional lighting, upon properties located at 9100 South 76th Street and 9220 South 76th Street, such properties zoned P-1 Park District and C-1 Conservancy District (Tax Key Nos. 884-9995-000 and 884-9996-000).

Election of Officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman's appointment of the Secretary.

C. Commissioner Pomahac will check with the library director to see what dates are available for early October 2021. Contact will be made with the Wisconsin DNR and Milwaukee Riverkeeper to see their speaker topics and availability. Discussion only. No action taken.

D. Library rain garden to be maintained by library volunteers. Community volunteers no longer servicing rain gardens at City Hall. They will be maintained by Building Maintenance.

V.

A. Natural Resource Features Special Exception application by Croatian Eagles Soccer Club, (Federation of Croatian Societies, Inc., property owner) for the purpose of allowing for grading of approximately 0.05 acres of wetland buffer and 0.19 acres of wetland setback, and installation of stormwater facilities (west of the turf field), for conversion of the existing grass soccer field into a 230 foot by 355 foot artificial turf soccer field, and installation of additional lighting, upon properties located at 9100 South 76th Street and 9220 South 76th Street, such properties zoned P-1 Park District and C-1 Conservancy District (Tax Key Nos. 884-9995-000 and 884-9996-000).

Commissioner Cieslak moved and Vice Chair Horn seconded a motion to approve the Natural Resource Special Exception application by the Croatian Eagle Soccer Club. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

- a) the applicant shall provide mitigation for Natural Resource impacts.
- b) the applicant shall submit conservation easements for areas of preserved natural resources
- c) the applicant shall provide conservation and mitigation information on related plans, including maintenance information and provide for financial sureties for their implementation. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

B. Election of Officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman's appointment of the Secretary

Chairman

Alderman Mayer moved and Commissioner Pomahac seconded a motion to nominate Vice Chair Linda Horn

as Chair. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Vice-Chairman

Commissioner Cieslak moved and Alderman Mayer seconded a motion to nominate Commissioner Jamie Groark as Vice Chair. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Secretary

Chair Horn appointed Commissioner Pomahac as Secretary.

Chairman Arthur Skowron was thanked for his years of service to the Environmental Commission.

Commission appointment of subcommittee members to review Buckthorn proposals for addition to noxious weeds list.

- C. Commission appointment of subcommittee members to review Buckthorn proposals for addition to noxious weeds list.

Motion #1

Vice Chair Groark moved and Alderman Mayer seconded a motion to form a subcommittee to review Buckthorn proposals and to look at addition of Buckthorn to the noxious weed list. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Motion #2

Alderman Mayer moved and Chair Horn seconded a motion to approve Commissioner Cieslak and Vice Chair Groark to the subcommittee. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

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

- D. City Forester Tom Riha was not present. Discussion to be continued at the June 23rd meeting.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

- VI.
 - A. June 23, 2021

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Environmental Commission involvement in the City of Franklin's National Night Out program Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

- VII.
 - A. Commissioner Cieslak contacted Audubon Society and Wild Ones for participation in Franklin's National Night Out.

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

- B.

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.** Alderman Mayer moved and Vice Chair Groark seconded to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting on May 26, 2021 at 8:12 p.m.. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).