# CITY OF FRANKLIN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES January 25, 2023

Approved March 22, 2023

#### **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Leave Chair Linda Horn called the January 25, 2023 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 Linda Horn, Vice Chair James Cieslak, Commissioners Sudarshan Sharma, Jamie Groark and Tom Niemiec and Alderman John Nelson. Also present was Associate Planner Marion Ecks. Alderman Nelson left the meeting at 7:30 pm and Commissioner Sharma left at 8:55 pm.

## **CITIZEN COMMENT**

II. The citizen comment period opened at 7:02 p.m. and closed at 7:44 p.m.. Thirteen citizens were present.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

III.

Minutes of the regular meeting of December 7, 2022.

A. Vice Chair Cieslak moved and Commissioner Sharma seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 7, 2022. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (5-0-1).

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

IV.

Review of articles for the City of Franklin Newsletter.

**A.** Arbor Day newsletter. Discussion only. No action taken.

Common Council referral of "No Mow May" to the Environmental Commission for research and recommendation back to Common Council.

**B.** Native planting ordinance. Make or find recommendations for best practices. Further discussion at next meeting. Discussion only. No action taken.

Environmental Commission participation in City of Franklin Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Task Force, to provide assistance in revisions to the Natural Resource Protection Standards and other elements of the City of Franklin UDO.

**C.** February 6, 2023 Committee of the Whole status update. Section 8 and 9. February 23, 2023 subdivision standards and new subdivision and administrative procedures. Discussion only. No action taken.

Funding for Environmental Commission activities.

**D.** Reimbursement options. Make a list. Oversight will be

through Planner Ecks. Submit to Planner Ecks or Gail Olsen.

Update on Buckthorn Subcommittee activity and/or proposals.

**E.** Discussion only. No action taken.

Environmental Commission involvement in Arbor Day 2023 event.

- **F.** Commissioner Groark moved and Commissioner Sharma seconded a motion to select the following trees and shrubs:
  - 1. American Hazelnut (shrub)
  - 2. Service Berry (tree)
  - 3. White Cedar (tree)
  - 4. Cranberry (highbush) (shrub)
  - 5. Swamp Oak (if possible)

but would like more shrubs than trees to be given away on Arbor Day, held on May 6, 2023. On voice vote, all voted 'aye.' Motion carried (5-0-1)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

٧.

Future cleanup event with Root-Pike WIN (Watershed Initiative Network), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium, a 501(c)(3) organization, and other community organizations.

A. Discussion only. No action taken.

Stormwater outfall issue in Wehr Nature Center, located at 9701 West College Avenue.

**B.** No update. Discussion only. No action taken.

Overview of City of Franklin noise ordinance.

C. Vice Chair Cieslak moved and Commissioner Niemiec seconded a motion to create a subcommittee to be formed with Vice Chair Cieslak and Commissioner Niemiec. On voice vote, all voted 'aye.' Motion carried (5-0-1).

City of Franklin participation in regional Solar Group Buy program. Review of next steps by Marti Monti, Midwest Renewable Energy Association.

**D.** Discussion only. No action taken.

# **SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

VI.

**A.** February 22, 2023

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

VII.

Notice is given that upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to

**A.** Vice Chair Cieslak moved and Commissioner Groark seconded to adjourn the Environmental Commission

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

meeting on January 25, 2023 at 9:15 pm. On voice vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (4-0-2).