

CITY OF FRANKLIN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2020

Approved
October 28, 2020

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

- I. Chairman Arthur Skowron called the September 23, 2020 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, Commissioners James Cieslak, Ken Hritz, Patricia Pomahac and Jamie Groark and Assistant Planner Marion Ecks attended the meeting in the Common Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall. Also present was City Forester Tom Riha. Alderman Dan Mayer participated remotely.

CITIZEN COMMENT

- II. The citizen comment period opened at 7:01 p.m. and closed at 7:01 p.m.. No citizens were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting of August 26, 2020.

III.

- A. Vice Chair Horn moved and Commissioner Cieslak seconded approval of the minutes for the regular meeting held August 26, 2020 and as corrected to delete reference to "special" and insert "regular" as the meeting type for the May 27, 2020 meeting as presented. On roll call vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ways to improve and expand Arbor Day 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.

IV.

- A. Discussion only. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS

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].

V.

- A. Commissioner Groark moved and Commissioner Hritz seconded a motion to include the "Falling Leaves" article by Nan Calvert on the City of Franklin Web site. Nan is the Program Manager for Respect our Waters, Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network. On roll call vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Root-Pike WIN Root River and Oak Creek Committee Volunteer Program Information.

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].

Common Council recommendation to add Buckthorn (invasive species) to noxious weed list.

Waste Management Group meeting report.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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

Gardening with native and natural plants.

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.

B. Planner Ecks noted this will be a future agenda item. Discussion only. No action taken.

C. Commissioner Pomahac will contact Jennifer Loeffel, City of Franklin Library Director, to check on availability of the Fadrow Room for future presentations. Discussion only. No action taken.

D. Alderman Mayer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Groark, that the Environmental Commission wait until making further recommendation to the Common Council regarding Buckthorn classification. Additional information needs to be reviewed and evaluated. Prior to the motion, City Forester, Tom Riha was present to give an overview and answer questions regarding Buckthorn. On roll call vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).

E. Commissioner Cieslak reviewed the waste dump update, dated September 15, 2020. Discussion only. No action taken.

VI.

A. October 28, 2020

VII.

A. Discussion only. No action taken.

B. Commissioner Cieslak discussed a pilot project, Gardening for the Birds and Bees. Discussion only. No action taken.

VIII.

Commissioner Cieslak moved and Commissioner Hritz seconded to adjourn the Environmental Commission meeting on September 23, 2020 at 8:05 p.m.. On roll call vote, all voted 'aye'. Motion carried (7-0-0).