

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

On Thursday, September 8, 2011, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Lake Itasca Conference Room at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Board Member Bob Bentz
 Board Member Thomas Stodola
 Board Member John Enstrom

Members Absent: Chairperson Michael Max
 Board Member Jennifer Carlson

Also Present: Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson

CALL TO ORDER

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Board Member Stodola and seconded by Board Member Bentz to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Board Members Enstrom, Bentz, and Stodola. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Max and Board Member Carlson.

APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Board Member Bentz and seconded by Board Member Stodola to approve the regular meeting minutes dated August 1, 2011.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Board Members Bentz and Stodola. Voting No: None. Abstain: Board Member Enstrom. Absent: Chairperson Max and Board Member Carlson.

POLICY BOARD BUSINESS

Case #1: Appoint Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson presented the staff report.

Board Member Bentz asked whether the Board should move forward with appointments this evening or wait until more than three members are present.

Board Member Enstrom inquired about the status of filling the two vacant seats.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that he was unsure but that he would follow up with Human Resources to see if the two positions have been advertised yet.

Discussion ensued about whether the present members should move forward with making appointments or hold off until a future meeting with more members present.

Motion by Board Member Enstrom and seconded by Board Member Bentz to table appointing a Chair and Vice Chair until the next meeting or until there are at least four members present.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Board Members Enstrom, Bentz, and Stodola. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Max and Board Member Carlson.

BOARD/STAFF INPUT

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson updated the Board with more information regarding the Recycle Your Holidays program and that he was going to pursue enlisting the City as a collection site for old holiday lights.

Board Member Bentz stated that he was waiting to hear back from other members of the Expo Subcommittee about various thoughts/ideas.

Board Member Enstrom suggested maybe having a speaker in to discuss wild mushrooms.

Board Member Enstrom offered to hold a bird walk at his property, similar to what used to be done when the event was at the elementary school, as part of the expo event.

There was also consensus from the Board Members that some sort of hands on activity, such as building bird houses or kids games, would be a good addition to the expo event.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson asked if that may be something the Expo Subcommittee could explore and report back to the Board.

Board Member Enstrom stated that he could talk to some folks at one of the home improvement stores about their willingness to participate.

Board Member Stodola stated that a date for the event should be determined so that it can be relayed to various people and organizations as they are contacted to participate. He requested that this be added as a case for the October agenda.

Board Member Enstrom stated that he would consider offering his property as an option for Christmas tree disposal.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson asked Board Member Enstrom to contact him to discuss this possibility further.

Discussion ensued about waste and recycling options around the holidays and Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that he would try and put together an article for the November/December newsletter about this topic.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Board Member Stodola and seconded by Board Member Bentz to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Anderson
Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator