

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

On Monday, March 7, 2011, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Mississippi River Conference Room at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Chairperson Michael Max  
                          Board Member Thomas Stodola  
                          Board Member John Freeburg  
                          Board Member John Enstrom (arrived 6:34pm)  
                          Board Member Kathleen Riley-Daniels

Members Absent:     Board Member Trent Hassett  
                          Board Member Bob Bentz

Also Present:         Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson  
                          Councilmember Randy Backous

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Max called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Board Member Freeburg and seconded by Board Member Riley-Daniels to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Max, Board Members Freeburg, Riley-Daniels and Stodola. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Members Bentz, Enstrom and Hassett.

**APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD MINUTES**

Board Member Enstrom arrived.

Motion by Board Member Riley-Daniels and seconded by Board Member Stodola to approve the regular meeting minutes dated February 7, 2011.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Max, Board Members Freeburg, Stodola, Enstrom and Riley-Daniels. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Members Bentz and Hasset.

## **POLICY BOARD BUSINESS**

### **Case #1: 2011 Work Plan**

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson presented the staff report.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson suggested the Board consider adjusting the timeframe of its' work plan; as it currently stands, the 2011 work plan may not receive approval from City Council until late April or even May, which would leave the Board with six (6) meetings to tackle the work plan.

Chairperson Max stated that he thought that was reasonable but suggested that the annual dates of the work plan be July 1 through June 30.

The consensus of the Board was that when the proposed work plan is presented to City Council, it be for July 1 through June 30.

### **Case #2: 2011 Environmental Expo & Tree Sale**

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson presented the staff report.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator requested clarification from the Board about presentations other than that of the keynote speaker, Mr. Lonnie Dupre.

General consensus of the Board was not to pursue any other 'professional' presentations; however, if a youth group such as cub scouts or 4-H were interested in doing a presentation on one of their current projects or recent accomplishments then that should be pursued.

Chairperson Max stated along those same lines, if a Master Gardener or Tree Care Advisor had a 'canned' presentation, then that may be another possibility.

Board Member Freeburg suggested some sort of presentation that highlighted the information on the City's website.

Board Member Freeburg suggested that the Board have copies of their work plan available at their booth during the expo event.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson cautioned that it may not be appropriate to disperse a draft work plan that has yet to be approved by City Council.

Board Member Freeburg clarified then that they should have a list of recent accomplishments of the Board at their booth.

Board Member Enstrom suggested that the Board have a suggestion box at their booth. That way, if attendees have a concern or a topic of interest that they think the City should be working on, they can communicate that via the suggestion box.

The Board agreed this was a good idea.

Board Member Enstrom stated that he would be contacting the John Deere dealership this week about their potential interest in having an exhibit at the event.

The Board discussed their booth and what it might include this year. Consensus was to have a display (info not determined) and a laptop that could highlight the website including the invasive species page, the water conservation page, and photos of Arbor Day planting events.

Councilmember Backous suggested that Webco to see if there's any possibility of utilizing some of their equipment for the event for better viewing of the website.

Board Member Stodola asked about the possibility of selling reusable shopping bags this year. He said that every time he goes shopping with the bags the City handed out in the past he gets complements and inquiries about the lined bags.

This possibility was discussed and was generally supported if there were some sponsors that may be willing to contribute to the purchase price.

Chairperson Max inquired about Arbor Day and if there were details for this year's event that the Board could have available at their booth.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator stated that he did not have any details yet about Arbor Day but that he and Parks Supervisor Riverblood spoke briefly last week about possibilities. It would likely be some combination of seedlings and larger plant stock and could possibly focus on North Park, which is in the northern portion of The COR development and has some vested interest from many of the neighbors to have some landscaping installed. He hoped to have more specifics available at the April meeting.

## **BOARD/STAFF INPUT**

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated the Cities of Ramsey and Andover are jointly offering a free workshop on EAB for residents on April 6. The workshop will be in the Alexander Ramsey conference room. Anyone interested in attending can register online on the City's website.

Board Member Enstrom passed around several publications.

Chairperson Max asked if the Chair and Vice Chair appointments should coincide with the timeframe of the Board's work plan.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated that they did not have to but could if the Board preferred. He will have a case on the April agenda for the appointments.

Chairperson Max thanked Board Member Freeburg for his service on the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Board Member Freeburg and seconded by Board Member Riley-Daniels to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Anderson  
Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator