

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

On Monday, November 13, 2017, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Council Chambers at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Chairperson Thomas Stodola  
                            Board Member Colleen Anderson  
                            Board Member Reid Bernard  
                            Board Member Jane Covart  
                            Board Member Michael Hiatt  
                            Board Member Lucas Trossen (arrived 6:55pm)  
                            Board Member Michael Valentine

Members Absent:     None

Also Present:         Councilmember LeTourneau  
                            City Planner Chris Anderson

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Stodola called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2.     CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**3.     APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Board Member Hiatt and seconded by Board Member Valentine to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Stodola, Board Member Anderson, Bernard, Covart, Hiatt, and Valentine. Voting No: None. Absent: Trossen.

**4.     APPROVE MINUTES**

**4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated October 16, 2017**

Motion by Chairperson Stodola and seconded by Board Member Covart to approve the regular meeting minutes dated October 16, 2017.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Stodola, Board Member Anderson, Bernard, Covart, Hiatt, and Valentine. Voting No: None. Absent: Trossen.

**5.     POLICY BOARD BUSINESS**

### **5.01: Receive Presentation from Resilient Communities Project Student Group**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report.

The RCP student group presented their work to the Board.

The student group noted several items other communities are doing that may be of interest. For example, the city of Edina requires a sustainability survey be completed and submitted with initial land use application that indicates what the project accomplishes from a sustainable/resilience perspective. They also noted that it would likely get a greater cross section of the community population to use events like the summer concert series and to ask folks a very short, simple question, such as what does natural resources mean to you?

The student group noted other recommendations as well, such as developing a key terms page for the website with some illustrations too would be helpful and developing an FAQ for developers to be accessible via the website.

There was a question and answer period as well as some general discussion between the Board and the student group.

The Board noted that the demographic information was quite interesting.

The Board thanked the students for their work and presentation.

City Planner Anderson recommended that the Board consider Case 5.03 next as there was someone in attendance for that case.

### **5.03: Confirm Recommendation for Lake Itasca Benefit to Related North Fork Meadows Subdivision; Case of Paxmar, LLC (Project No. 17-126)**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He reported that the City Council tabled action on this case; requesting a better delineation of the Lake Itasca Greenway boundary as well as a park dedication/trail development fee and open space pro-forma comparison. He stated that staff is currently working on this request with the developer. He noted that there are no changes to the proposal from the previous EPB review.

Alan Reissler with Paxmar, LLC, introduced himself and offered to address any questions the Board may have.

The Board requested further information from staff about the potential gap in the greenway corridor on land that was not under the same ownership.

City Planner Anderson stated that the intention would be to complete a contiguous greenway corridor but that that property owner had not yet been approached about a potential trail easement to accommodate the project.

Motion by Board Member Valentine and seconded by Board Member Anderson to recommend to the City Council that the additional information supports a sufficient public benefit for the North Fork Meadows Planned Unit Development.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Stodola, Board Member Anderson, Bernard, Covart, Hiatt, Trossen, and Valentine. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**5.02: Consider Amendment to Landscape Plan for Vistas at North Commons**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He noted that the subdivision received all the necessary approvals earlier this year and is now under construction. He noted that subsequent to plan development and the entitlement process, ownership of the project was transferred to Morning Sun Homes. He stated that the builder is nearing completion of the first home and was attempting to complete landscaping on site when they approach the City to inquire about the possibility of eliminating the use of a seed mix and instead finishing the entire site with sod.

Motion by Board Member Hiatt and seconded by Chairperson Stodola to recommend approval of the requested amendment to the Landscape Plan to allow the use of sod rather than seed mix.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Stodola, Board Member Anderson, Bernard, Covart, Hiatt, Trossen, and Valentine. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT**

- **Consider Updates to City’s Environmental Webpage(s)**

City Planner Anderson requested that the Board review the City’s website, especially those pages focused on recycling and natural resources and provide any feedback for improvements in advance of the city rolling out a new website this coming spring.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Board Member Valentine and seconded by Board Member Covart to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Anderson  
City Planner

ATTEST:

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JoAnn Shaw  
Community Development Secretary