

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

GreenStep Committee Members

FROM: Jason Ludwigson, Sustainability Coordinator

DATE: November 4th, 2021

RE: Meeting Minutes November 3rd, 2021 4:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Jason Ludwigson, Bill Waller, Jim Nissen, Theresa O'Donnell, Bob Spencer, Angie Boettcher, Lauren Rislov

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Michael Aflerti, Tyler Benish

GUESTS: Brooke Aselson

MINUTES

1. The committee, by consensus, approved the August 25th GreenSteps committee minutes.
2. Brooke Aselson with the MNPCA presented information about the Smart Salting program to the committee. Chloride in our water system (streams, rivers, lakes) causes damage to aquatic life. Opportunities to host a Smart Salting training at the City of La Crescent were discussed.
3. Plans for the 2022 MnDOT landscape partnership were discussed. Information about the prairie planting planned for Horse Track Meadows was presented. The Xerces society is going to donate seed for the project valued at approx. \$7,000.
4. The committee reviewed ideas for the creation of a soak-it-up award and pollinator recognition award for the community. Examples from the community of Shoreview were presented. It was the consensus of the committee to modify the Shoreview awards for adoption by the City of La Crescent.
5. The committee reviewed the adopt-a-drain program sign-up and outreach to the community. Ideas for outreach included the local schools, city newsletter, website, chamber of commerce, and Facebook page. Work on outreach will continue.
6. The committee was updated on the Fleet Electrification study. 10 of the 13 vehicles have completed the study. A final presentation from the study will be coming before the end of 2021.
6. Jason Ludwigson provided an update on the Solar Ready Home Certification. The Solar Ready Home Certification was approved by the city council. La Crescent is the first city in the Midwest to have a Solar Ready Home Certification. The MN GreenSteps cities program hopes to use our Solar Ready Home Certification as a model for other cities to adopt.
7. The committee discussed the battery (EV) lawn and landscape showcase for spring of 2022. Jason Ludwigson will contact local vendors (Bryers, and Heths/ACE). The timeline is for the event is the 1st two weeks in April. Location TBD.

8. The committee reviewed the greater Minnesota recycling and compost grant. Discussion about opportunities and location for composting (food waste) in the community were discussed. A partnership with the county was an option presented.

9. The meeting was adjourned at approx. 6:05 p.m.