

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

GreenStep Committee Members

FROM: Jason Ludwigson, Sustainability Coordinator

DATE: July 1st, 2021

RE: Meeting Minutes June 30th, 2021 4:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Jason Ludwigson, Bill Waller, Jim Nissen, Theresa O'Donnell, Tyler Benish

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Isabelle Morken, Meghan Steffes, Michael Aflerti, Bob Spencer, Angie Boettcher

GUESTS: Ben Rabe

MINUTES

1. The committee, by consensus, approved the May 26th GreenSteps committee minutes.
2. The committee listened to a presentation by Ben Rabe from Fresh Energy on electrification. Ben discussed the benefits of electrification in residential homes, commercial buildings, and vehicles. Benefits of electrification include demand storage for the electrical grid, reduced pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide, and increased efficiency.
3. The committee reviewed ideas for the creation of a soak-it-up award and pollinator recognition award for the community.
4. The committee discussed plans proposed by Western Technical college landscape design students for rain garden areas at the entrance of the Veterans Park playground. A professional landscape plan would cost \$300-400. It was proposed to ask a local service group if they would be willing to fund the plan development.
5. The committee was updated on the Fleet Electrification study to be performed by Swatch Labs and the Stormwater Public Education and Outreach plan. The devices for the Fleet Electrification study will be installed in July.
6. Jason Ludwigson provided an update on the Partners in Energy and community outreach for Home Energy Squad visits. The visits will be available to residents the week of August 2nd and August 16th.
7. The committee, by consensus, agreed to invite Lauren Rislov to join the GreenSteps committee as a student representative.
8. The committee discussed options for a beekeeping ordinance. It was the consensus of the committee to put the recommendations for the beekeeping ordinance on file with the building official and reevaluate if demand from the community for beekeeping increases.
9. The committee reviewed the adopt-a-drain program. The consensus of the committee was to recommend the adopt-a-drain program be added to the July 26th city council agenda for approval. The committee also recommended the carbon free resolution be added as an agenda item for discussion to the July 26th city council agenda.
10. The meeting was adjourned at approx. 6:01 p.m.