

## CITIZENS ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

**DATE:** January 4, 2018

**TIME:** 4:30pm

**PRESENT:** Hans Madland, Bruno Borsari, Dan Hall, Chris Meyer, Lynette Power

**STAFF:** Assistant City Planner Luke Sims

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1. Meeting was called to order by Chair Dan Hall at 4:33 pm.
2. Minutes from December 7, 2017 meeting approved unanimously after a motion by Bruno Borsari and second by Lynette Power.
3. Assistant City Planner Sims provided an overview of the Complete Streets Policy and Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan that was approved by City Council in December. In particular, Sims highlighted the upcoming projects that could come in the short term. In addition, Sims outlined a Bikeable Community Workshop put on by Bike MN that Winona will be hosting in mid-May or early June and asked for interest from CEQC. Lynette Power, Chris Meyer, and Dan Hall expressed interest.
4. The Committee discussed the overall process for becoming a full Commission with the City rather than a subcommittee under the Planning Commission. The timeline was of particular focus with the expected presentation from John Howard and the CEQC at the January 22, 2018 Planning Commission meeting before proceeding to City Council.
5. The Lake Winona Waterfowl Management Plan was presented to the CEQC for input. Committee members mentioned a concern over the ultimate trapping and extermination of Canada goose populations but thought the overall plan seemed satisfactory. In particular, the emphasis on management of the geese – not getting rid of the geese – was important to the Committee. Chris Meyer deferred to Healthy Lake Winona's expertise in crafting the plan. Suggestions for further consideration included possible fertility management, having conversations about the carrying capacity of Lake Winona, conducting a study of effective deterrence measures, and continued awareness campaigns. Chair Dan Hall emphasized that the minutes reflect his support for the plan. Lynette Power also noted her faith in those crafting the plan.
6. Chris Meyer provided an update on Partners in Energy. Plans had been adopted with goals and there will be a meeting at the Friendship Center on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and one with the Learning Club in April. In addition, the GreenStep program was discussed: The City is currently certified as a Step 1 City and should reach Step 2 status in 2018.
7. Hans Madland mentioned a need for the City to focus more on connecting with nature to be an appealing place to potential residents and current residents. In particular, he pointed to Boulder, Colorado's recent ranking as the Happiest City in America. Chair Dan Hall noted that industrial development in Winona must be balanced. Hans Madland also noted that the highest and best use of land must be considered and that long-term planning must address waterfront development. It was noted by the CEQC that baby steps are being made currently.
8. On a motion by Chris Meyer and second by Lynette Power, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:37 pm.

Luke Sims, Assistant City Planner