



City of Duluth

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Minutes

Natural Resources Commission.

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

6:00 PM Room 330, First Floor, City Hall, 411 West First Street

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting started at 6:02 pm.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Judy Gibbs, John Lindgren, Nancy Schuldt, Mike Schrage, Brandon Krumwiede.

Absent: Brandon VanTassel, Beth Kleinke, Mike Pennington.

City Staff: Jim Filby Williams, Director of Administration; Diane Desotelle, Natural Resources Coordinator; Clark Christenson, City Forester ; Jennifer Ondrik, Administrative Clerical Specialist.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

This NRC was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Susan Stanich opted to end her term early, and therefore, there is a vacancy on the Commission. The City Clerk's office will be accepting online applications now through their targeted spring recruitment effort at which time the City will proceed to fill that and any other positions whose terms have ended.

NEW BUSINESS

ST. LOUIS RIVER NATURAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN - (ACTION REQUESTED)

The Commission discussed the St. Louis River Corridor DNAP draft plan. The

Commission would like to see additional information explaining the adjacent St. Louis River Areas of Concern (SLRAOC), some additional links to be embedded in the report and asked for a listing of abbreviations to be incorporated into the revised draft.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) intend to submit a letter of support of the nomination of the St. Louis River Natural Area (SLRNA) under the City's Natural Areas Program.

Final edits are to be submitted by December 16th to both Diane and Gini Breidenbach (MN Land Trust) for incorporation into the revised final draft for adoption and/or vote at the January meeting.

FORESTERS REPORT

Clark reported that his crews were continuing to work on EAB tree removals. This spring, he will be addressing the tree vaults in Lincoln Park and hopes to have them refurbished by June 2020. The City accepted a grant that will aid in approximately 175 large ash removals. Clark will initiate work on a city-wide Urban Forestry Plan.

NATURAL RESOURCES UPDATE

Diane updated the Commission that she will be putting together a technical team to address the plant community project at Hartley. In addition, she is drafting a scope of work for assistance in writing a city-wide Natural Resources Management Plan.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TREE PRESERVATION STANDARDS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15, M/S/C.