



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 5:30 pm

2. **ROLL CALL**

Board Members: Darla LeClair, Donald DeBruyn, Jake Glaser, Jay Orvis, Douglas Brandt, Corinne Weis

Staff & Others: Scott Ahl, Shannon Derby, Tracey Koach, John Tillotson

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the March 19, 2024, Environmental Advisory Board meeting

Donald DeBruyn made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2024, Environmental Advisory Board meeting, seconded by Douglas Brandt. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT** – N/A

5. **NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION, IF NEEDED**

A. **Urban Forestry Grant endorsement - with cooperation of Parks Director Mike Mathis**

Mike Mathis applied for a grant for distribution of different tree species and children involvement.

The board concurred with the grant application.

B. **EAB city website pages**

The Board reviewed the website. Also noted on the website Department tab that 'EAB' should be expanded to 'Environmental Advisory Board'.

A lot of assistance from Engineering Administrative Assistant Sue Reilly and Dave Dassey from IT for the website development.

C. **Partnership with Van der Brohe Arboretum**

1. **Project proposal in process**

- a. Goal - stormwater mitigation
- b. Importance - prevention of toxins, solids, and pollutants from entering downstream water of the state and U.S.
- c. Discuss land needs/use
- d. Responsible parties for design and material costs and maintenance
- e. Plan in 2024 and start work in 2025

Darla is working on a partnership with the Arboretum.

D. Bee City designation - Corinne with cooperation of Mike Mathis - BeeCityUSA.org

City has components of organization, just need to determine if there is interest. Possibly put link on our EAB website. Note there is approximately a \$200 annual fee. Look into benefits of requirement for designation.

Corinne and Jake will find more info on Bee City.

E. Low Mow May - Corinne with cooperation of Mike Mathis

Turf grass is not good for bees. Better to have pollinator gardens. Try not to spray chemicals and use less water.

A lot of attention has faded as other practices such as pollinator garden appear to be more effective. It was also noted that other communities have withdrawn support of this practice. No further action to be taken on this item.

F. Paddler's Park planning in process - Corinne with cooperation of Mike Mathis

Working with Parks & Rec on planting native diversity plants and bio swales. Also looking at an area near Neshotah Park. Hoping to proceed with plans and plant next spring.

Talk with local suppliers about having native species available at local stores (Calberts, Steinies, Domnitz).

G. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Grant – No update

6. ONGOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED

A. Northeast Lakeshore TMDL/Urban Non-Point Source Grant - No update

B. Front Yard Vegetable Gardens

1. 5 applicants (to date) – 1 potentially coming
2. Promotion
 - a. Seehafer PSA radio and online
 - b. Posters
 - c. Social media
 - d. Marquees
 - e. City Manager's report
 - f. Lining up supply partners
 - g. Forms and links available on City website
 - h. Where do we go from here?
 1. Citizen led cooperative?

C. 2024-2025 Winter Educational Series update

1. October 10, 2025 - John Durbrow - Arboretum current and future projects, plans and events and the importance of trees and wildlife.
2. November 14, 2025 - Sue Crowley - Birding at Home - attracting and caring for native birds

3. December 12, 2025 - Tara Wachowski - Rain Gardens: Blending style and sustainability
4. January 9th, 2026 - Titus Seilheimer - Fins and Scales - conservation, management and recipes of Great lakes fish
5. February 13, 2026 - Mike Mathis - Local Parks - rest and relax incorporating green space, art and recreation
6. March 13, 2026 - DNR Wildlife of Wisconsin - Keeping Wildlife Wild - What would you do?
7. April 10, 2026 - Michael Ditmer - Light pollution and animal confusion
animal and nuisance animals and how to deter them. Also state wide wildlife issues, etc.

Winter Educational Series covered with website.

7. OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF NEEDED

A. Updated EAB Logo

Doug Brandt presented several options for an updated EAB logo.

Jay Orvis made a motion to adopt the updated EAB logo, seconded by Corinne Weis. Motion carried.

- B.** Tracey and Corinne volunteered to take water quality samples on the West Twin River. This data may be used as part of a baseline for water quality.

8. SET DATE, TIME, AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

Proposed for Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:30 pm

9. ADJOURNMENT: 6:55 pm

Respectfully submitted by: *Matthew R. Heckenlaible*

Public Works Director/City Engineer