



# ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 5:30 PM

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

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## MINUTES

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

2. **ROLL CALL AND CHECK ON REMOTE PARTICIPANTS**

**Board Members:** Darla LeClair, Douglas Brandt, Tracey Koach, Donald DeBruyn, Corinne Weis

**Excused:** Heather Gross, John Tillotson

**Staff & Others:** Matthew Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl, Mike Mathis, Shannon Derby

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the October 15, 2024, Environmental Advisory Board meeting

Tracey Koach made a motion to accept the October 15, 2024, Environmental Advisory Board meeting minutes with revision, seconded by Corinne Weis. Motion carried.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT – N/A**

5. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS: MEMBER UPDATES**

A. **Jay Orvis Resignation**

Matthew Heckenlaible received an email stating that Jay Orvis was resigning from the Environmental Advisory Board. He will be recognized at Council.

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

A. **New Initiative - Sustainable Food, Water Monitoring Program**

Water monitoring ended last month and we have not seen a report on this. Samples were taken from the West Twin Rivers near CTH V for the past six months. Those samples were submitted to the state and they expect to have a report prepared in the future.

Climate changes affecting source of food which impacts agriculture, supply of food and related price to food (supply/demand).

7. **ONGOING ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION, AS NEEDED**

A. **2024-2025 Winter Educational Series update**

October 10, 2024 - A Natural Balance - blending trees, nature, art and people – CANCELED

November 14, 2024 - Birding at Home - attracting and caring for native birds

December 12, 2024 - Rain Gardens - blending style and sustainability – CANCELED

- Speaker canceled – not enough time

January 9, 2025 - Fins and Scales - conservation, management and recipes for Great Lakes fish

February 13, 2025 - Rest and Relax at Local Parks - incorporating green space, art and recreation

- Look at changing to Public Informational meeting for park tree grants (Lakeshore Natural Resource Board). Note: Grants are progressing slowly.

March 13, 2025 - What Would You Do? - keeping wildlife wild

April 10, 2025 - Light Pollution and Animal Confusion

**B. EAB City Posted Video Library update**

Darla resolved the software issues but now does not have access to videos.

**8. TREE/FORESTRY/POLLINATOR INITIATIVES**

**A. Urban Forestry Grant**

Mike Mathis showed a power point presentation (see attachment). Tree planting for 2025 will be six (6) trees at Lester Library, 44 citywide and 25 community outreach (schools).

Winter activities, lectures and kids events.

Workshop on pruning – EAB Educational Series

**B. Arbor Day Grant**

Arbor Day 2025 is April 25, 2025. Focus on outreach. School involvement – host planting event at Koenig School.

**C. Lake Michigan Bird Observatory Grant**

Received \$10,000 grant. Sixty (60) trees need to be planted on south side of the city. Looking at Roosevelt Avenue and spread out others. Need to be native trees only.

**D. Bee City Designation**

Cost is \$200/year. Committee would need to recommend to Council. Then Council would need to pass a resolution to include reducing use of pesticides (public education), incorporating pollinator conscious policies and hosting pollinator educational series.

Take off agenda – not much benefit.

**E. Paddlers Park update**

LNRP funded the planting of nine (9) 2-inch trees per plan.

Coastal Management Application for a new concrete boat launch, signage, dock and fishing sites.

**F. NFWF, Great Lake and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Grant**

Two grants for approximately \$200,000 for outreach with 30 percent plans for original beach enhancements from Lighthouse Inn to the south.

**G. Monarch City – No information provided.**

**H. Neshotah Beach Project(s)**

Project cost is projected as \$419,000 with a 50/50 split. Have \$25,000 for rain gardens/storm water management. A rain garden will be installed near bus shelter on Pierce Street. Hoping to be completed prior to peak of summer.

**9. OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD, WITH CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF NEEDED – N/A**

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

Proposed for Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 5:30 pm

**11. ADJOURNMENT:** 7:03 pm

Don DeBruyn made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Corinne Weis. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: *Matthew R. Heckenlaible*

Public Works Director/City Engineer