



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 5:30 PM

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

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Director Heckenlaible called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

2. **ROLL CALL**

Board Members:

Present: Tracey Koach, Jake Glaeser, Jay Orvis, Douglas Brandt, Shannon Derby, Corinne Weis

Present via phone: Darla LeClair

Absent: Donald DeBruyn

Staff: Matt Heckenlaible, Scott Ahl

Public: Nancy Orvis

B. Front Yard Vegetable Garden update

1. Website interest

* May 2023 - 373 views, 1.08% of City website use

* June 2023 - 143 views, 0.34% of City website use

- Approved applications: May-1, June-1, July-interest expressed but no application

2. Residents are expressing interest in next year's program to start pre-planning

3. Forms available on City website and at City Hall in the Public Works Dept.

4. Where do we go from here?

a. Approval for 2024 by City Council

b. Promote interest

c. Set up citizen led cooperative

Director Heckenlaible started the conversation with a review of website activity and number of permits issued in the months of May and June 2023. Corinne Weis, stated that she was one of the individuals interested in the program and was the first to receive a permit to do a front yard garden. She stated that she saw some information on it in a flyer in a window but thought finding additional information on the City's website was difficult to navigate to. She suggested that possibly adding information to a bill mailing may be beneficial. The Board informed her that it had been included in utility billing information. Darla LeClair stated that she had been on the radio twice promoting the program and that it got a late start due to all the approvals that were necessary to allow the program to proceed. LeClair also stated that she has had several individuals interested in the program that want to start planning their landscaping for the 2024 season. Tracey Koach stated that she had also received inquiries and interest for the 2024 season. Koach also stated that the total number of participants is not necessarily important, but that we achieved some participation is what is important. Upon additional discussion, the Board felt it would be good to try the Front Yard Vegetable Garden program again in 2024. Director Heckenlaible stated that to do so the program would need to go back through the Planning Commission and City Council for modification of Municipal Code allowing the program to continue through 2024.

Tracey Koach made a motion to seek Plan Commission and City Council approval for modification of Municipal Code allowing Front Yard Gardening to occur in 2024, Corinne Weis seconded the motion. Motion passed.