

Natural Resources Commission Minutes
November 16, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Chair Bob Larson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Chair Bob Larson, Vice Chair Kate Winsor; Commissioners David White and Dan McDermott; NOHOA Liaison Diane Gorder; and City Council Liaison Marty Long

Staff: City Administrator Mike Robertson and Recording Secretary Gretchen Needham

Absent: Commissioner John Murphy

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Vice Chair Winsor moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner McDermott seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner White moved to approve the October 2017 minutes. Commissioner McDermott seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Conservation Award Committee Report

The format for the awards was approved at the November 9 City Council Meeting. Vice Chair Winsor plans to highlight one award per month, publishing information in the North Oaks News, the NRC Facebook page, and on the City website.

Tick Task Force Report

Commissioners White and McDermott plan to meet with TTF Chair Brooke Moore to discuss discrepancies between the 2016 TTF survey and the data listed at the Minnesota Department of Health. The method of reporting Lyme Disease cases and the second-tier required for confirmation of Lyme Disease may not be perfectly aligned. TTF plans to meet next on January 16, 2018.

Kate Winsor's Report

Weed of the month for December is black locust; an article has been submitted to the North Oaks News. An article will be submitted to the North Oaks News about living with coyotes in the near future.

City Update/Operation Clearview

City Council Liaison Long described the history of Operation Clearview, which started with NOHOA and then became a City ordinance. The City is looking at contractors to do the work if necessary. Commissioner White asked if the tree services will be engaged after the homeowner has been contacted or beforehand. Administrator Robertson said after and a price

break could be worked out with the tree services. The City Council has said Operation Clearview is a safety issue and is the responsibility of the homeowner.

City Administrator Robertson's Report

Calls to the police this past quarter are down in North Oaks by 20% this year compared to the same quarter in 2016.

The North Oaks Company has been working with the City to form a consensus on changing the Gatehouse. A concept plan is in the works.

NOHOA and NEST Update

Commissioner Gorder has made a map of where purple loosestrife is popping up in the City. Beetles can be used as biological controls; they are ordered in May and released in the area of the loosestrife. Minnesota DNR trained Commissioner Gorder in how to use this method effectively. Commissioner Gorder asked the NRC to consider funding purchasing the beetles for release in spring of 2018, which would cost approximately \$500.

Commissioner Gorder moved to have the NRC fund up to \$500 out of the NRC's 2017 operating budget for beetles. Commissioner White seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Other Business:

Two persons interested in the NRC openings came to the meeting and introduced themselves.

Turkeys continue to be discussed by the City Council but no action has been taken.

Adjournment:

Commissioner McDermott made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner White seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 21, 2017