

St. Anthony Park Community Council  
**Environment Committee**  
 Wednesday August 23, 2017 Agenda  
 Stephen Mastey, co chair

In attendance: Stephen Mastey, Tim Wulling, Steve Yetter, Sarah Goodspeed

7:00	Introductions, approve agenda and previous minutes	Tentative approval pending quorum
7:10	<p>10-year planning</p> <p>Map requests bumped to multiple staff, still pending. Hope that an intern will be able to help acquire district maps through other sources while waiting. TTASAP has solar initiative, has had a hard time convincing landowners to commit to solar installations. Almost need existing entity with insurance and other challenges. Rise of community solar offers more opportunities, still pending responses that fell through. Trying to recruit State Fair as host location over parking lot, again proposal not responded to. Speaking with Cooperative Energy Futures, coop keen on serving everyone not just high credit etc. Community solar goal to have local array for local owners and subscribers, CEF is growing and more stable, TTASAP would help enroll for local project. Committee members should review previous 10-year plan and be prepared to incorporate community feedback in next month into drafting next 10-year priorities.</p>	
7:20	<p>Transition Town Update</p> <p>Local Transition group meeting tomorrow evening 7/9, usually a dozen folks turnout. Transition US National gathering at Macalester last month brought a couple hundred people. Many workshops, intensive workshops Th-Fri for more active members, keynote speaker Friday evening Richard Heinberg from Post Carbon Institute well attended, follow up meetings and workshops all weekend. Michael was leader for finding location, bringing to Twin Cities and to Macalester, with carbon neutral programs on campus. Ways to counterbalance carbon use with raised awareness of other ways to work through. Energy Fair coming up Sept 9/10 on Harriet Island. Midwest Renewable Energy Association based in Wisconsin has had energy fair there in June for years, starting second fair in Twin Cities for first time this year. Green Expo lost funding, will have many of same speakers, again many workshops and demonstrations. Volunteers get in free.</p>	
7:30	<p>Tree Trimming/preservation</p> <p>Between Xcel and City did a poor job communicating with us despite our efforts. Potentially not the worst outcome, oaks were not completely removed from railroad tracks, but without more mitigation options what can we do now to rebuild some sort of vegetative barrier? City ROW or BNSF property, limited options. Residents concerned with greatly changed landscape. Continue to follow up with City.</p>	
7:45	<p>Organized Hauling</p> <p>Organized hauling underway, spoke after last Kasota Ponds cleanup that so much dumping is byproduct of lack of organized collection, can't afford or bother to dispose properly. Under organized collection will be picked up in alley, Samantha asked Steve to speak on issue. Some surprising push back from waste advocates, some folks who produce so little waste are not able to opt out. Bulk items often taken by scrappers, they also dump the useless items, not accountable. Most people on average will be saving, with added benefit of one truck in alley instead of many. Many older families getting rid of stuff in old homes will be saving a lot. Overall a good plan, still an uphill battle. Most waste goes to Newport Waste-to-Energy plant. Heavily sifted, recyclable and compostable items supposedly taken out. Many NSAP residents use Garbage Man, others WM, depends on price where waste is taken. Plan divides city to maintain existing hauler balance, not optimal but fair to businesses. Now entering crunch time with implementation on horizon, Ward 4 asking for letters to the editor in support of hauling, letters tracked considered barometer on local issues. Interested in sharing program between neighbors. Expect some resistance, freedom of choice perspective, but organizing is valuable for shared benefits. Can committee sponsor an event to talk about hauling? Community Council statement of support of organized hauling. What is timeline, when is next opportunity to rally neighbors around hauling? Concurrent timing with County Waste Management Plan. If we wanted event, have technical expert, city county educators, not rely on Russ to champion, relatively neutral.</p>	
8:15	<p>Other</p> <p>-Master Water Stewards meeting 9/14: volunteer program to improve water quality through CRWD.          -Grant opportunities: ask committees to keep eyes and ears out for new ideas and opportunities. CAM WestRock pollution reduction idea. District stormwater with Weyerhaeuser limited to use funding on public land have to find opportunity (Medina requirement for all development to add stormwater) Speak with Ellen at City, must be more creative to work with park opportunity. Trust for Public Land support design cost. Developer holding on to money for infrastructure, not allowed for staff, etc.</p>	
8:41	Adjourn	Motion to adjourn.