

BEMIDJI SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 11, 2025

City Hall – 317 4th Street NW
3:30 PM



1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3) APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A) August 14, 2025

4) PUBLIC COMMENT

Please state your name and address; please use appropriate language and no derogatory comments towards any individuals; please keep your comments limited to 3 minutes or less; and the chair may limit speakers and times accordingly.

5) OLD BUSINESS

B) Proposed Bylaws Amendment

a. *Proposed amendment moved during August meeting is already reflected in bylaws (VII. Voting B.: "or their designee" after "The City Manager...")*

b. *Discussion on other proposed amendments*

C) Recap August 15th Tree Inventory App Training (Charles, Jordan, C. Thayer)

D) Comprehensive Planning

a. Upcoming engagement opportunities (Anna)

b. MPCA LCA Grant update (Melissa)

E) Recap Past Citizen Comment Topics

a. Water Surface Use Management

6) NEW BUSINESS

F) Council Member Updates

G) Upcoming Events

a. Thursday, Oct 2nd (4:00-6:00pm) EV Car Show
Where: Beltrami Electric Cooperative
What: Consider hosting a table and/or helping spread the word

b. Tuesday, Oct 14th Planning Board Meeting (Linda)
Where: Bemidji City Hall
What: Discussion about Minnesota Climate Action Partnership (MCAP)

7) ADJOURN

MEMBER ATTENDING REMOTELY

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.02, Subd. 1, Sustainability Commission Member Linda Kingery will be attending remotely via WebEx. Members of the public may monitor the meeting by accessing the remote meeting link on the city website.

Sustainability Commission meeting,
August 14, 2025
Jordan, Lisa, Elise, Melissa, Linda Charles, Jo,

Chair Jordan Lutz called the meeting to order at 3:33 and declared a quorum present.

Charles/Lisa m/s to approve the agenda, H Audrey and make it a standing new business item on the agenda.

Charles/Lisa m/s to approve minutes of July 10

Move to adopt Linda/Charles m/s to adopt the language for standing agenda item to allow citizen comment. carries

Charles/Lisa move/s to insert "or their designee" after city manager in VII B. carries

C On July 28, Jordan, Charles, and Linda met with City Council during their work session. It was a successful meeting. Proposed 5 areas of focus for achieving Step 4, and f add more.

D. Nymore nights debrief

Planned for 300, used 800 plates.

Ran out of food - ordered pizza, many times, many pizza shops

6 stations, participants would answer a question about their community.

Health and wellness, gratitude, science and nature, active living and play,

Elise to share the spreadsheet

Lisa - best event she attended all summer - so many people, variety of the stations, questions about community building. Harmony had a board that featured Green Step local food actions. Will show up at every event.

Surveys - large stack of paper surveys, and electronic 80 surveys

Next dates - Wednesday Sept 17 at Diamond Point Park Diamond Days - 5 to 7 pm

Might consider a post storm

August 21 - Stanford Pow Wow

** Melissa - Rich and Melissa asked for help from Sustainability Commission to seek grants and help for replacing trees -

Public entities and private.

DNR, SWCD? Blandin gave NWMF \$100,000.

Seedlings to be given away.