**SNG Environmental Committee Minutes**

June 27, 2024

7:00-8:30 PM

Matthews Park

**Attendees:**

**Notes submitted by:** Katherine Fish

The meeting began with a brief large group discussion. It was announced that at our next meeting in July, MnDOT representatives will be in attendance to present and answer questions about the [Rethinking I-94](https://talk.dot.state.mn.us/rethinking-i94) project. Terry also updated the committee that a draft version of the committee’s charter, written by Dave Gagne with input from several others, is now ready for review. Terry will send it out following the meeting; committee members are asked to respond to Terry’s email prior to the next meeting with a vote of Yes, No, or Table for discussion.

Attendees then broke into two working groups, Transportation & Air Quality and Clean Energy.

**Working Group Updates**

**Air Quality & Transportation**

The group spent the session planning for the upcoming meeting with MnDOT representatives, including creating the agenda and planning publicity. Xan has been the point person in contact with MnDOT and will continue to coordinate with them as needed. The group agreed that it would be helpful to ask the MnDOT reps to focus their discussion on the process they are undertaking, with a particular focus on the environmental impact assessment. Xan will ask them to send their slides ahead of time; to bring their own tech, if possible; and to bring posters depicting each of the 10 scenarios currently under review. The meeting will begin with an open house to allow folks to look over the scenarios. After an introduction by an Environment Committee member, there will be a MnDOT presentation, followed by Q&A and discussion time facilitated by a working group member. At the end of the event there will be some time preserved for any pending committee business.

The group also discussed ways to get the word out about the event. Elizabeth volunteered to help with getting the SNG newsletter sent out, if needed, since the SNG staff position that normally is responsible for the newsletter is currently empty. Xan volunteered to create a flier and share it with the working group, and possible locations where it could be posted were brainstormed.

There was a question of whether there might be a budget available for refreshments; Terry confirmed that she could request funds from SNG for that.

The working group members agreed to meet again in 2 weeks to iron out the final details for the event.

**Clean Energy**

**Announcements**

* Dan announced a couple of upcoming events. He and Patrice will be hosting a house party for anyone interested in learning about the organization [Faith in Minnesota](https://faithinmn.org/), a political advocacy group, on July 20. The following Tuesday, an affiliated group called Young Adult Coalition will be hosting a party at Matthews Park.
* Terry shared an announcement from Marilyn, who was unable to attend the meeting, encouraging committee members to check out the company [Ridwell](https://www.ridwell.com/). There will be a tour of their warehouse on July 19.

**Next Meeting**: Thursday, July 25, 6:45-8:30pm, Matthews Park.