

Light Pollution subcommittee minutes for March 11, 2014

Call to order at 5:10

Ott and Custer attending

Open meeting posted

Agenda revision: Eliminate two items, additional questions added to the survey and elect chair person

Agenda revision motion: Moved Ott and seconded Custer

Motion to accept the minutes: moved and seconded, Custer and Ott

Review articles and information; at

Discussion on whether to adopt recommendations from MN Environment Quality Board ; if recommending lighting zones what steps would be needed – Custer will contact Lien

Current light conditions are specific to each mine site; changing the ordinance to add photometric planning is one option

Ott drafted information summaries for Missing the Dark and A study of Bird Mortality

Custer will update the EQB summary with final version

Few complaints have been documented at the county level and in the city of Whitehall. Leading to the question of whether light pollution is perceived as a problem.

Do we connect light pollution issues to stable communities. Light pollution is contrary to stated goals for people living in this county. Light pollutions is also contrary to the amenities visitors come to the area for.

By implementing light zone plan we preserve areas that will not be subject to potential negative impacts of light pollution. This would help to define stability for those people who want to build in rural residential areas and know that the quality of their environment would not be degraded by Industrial Sand mining.

The question was raised as to whether the task of defining lighting zones should be given to the townships . Either way, Townships input would be needed.

Agreement that this subcommittee would recommend Lighting zoning in accordance with township land use plans and recommendation from MN EQB report.

Next steps: Ott will submit information sheets after second review of articles. Also locate breast cancer article.

Custer will update the Scoping sheet

This subcommittee needs more guidance on what type of summary is needed for the final report. Custer will submit the question to Carol for next agenda.

The next meeting after we guidance on final report and an understanding of when survey and focus group data will be available.

Custer Moved to adjourn at 6:24 Seconded by Ott