

**Lyndale Neighborhood Association  
Environment Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2024**



**In Attendance:**

Sami Smetana	Doug Herkenhoff	Maleni Wittala
Holly Reckel	Denise Herkenhoff	Andrea and Carrie from Tangletown

Guest Speakers - Emily Barker from Reuse Minnesota and Margo Ashmore who is serving at the City as a Green Corps member this year - helping to lead discussion on Barriers to Reuse.

Here is a [discussion outline](#) prepared by Sami that helped guide discussion.

We also shared ideas for Reuse Activities/Events:

- **Clothing Mending** – Repairing worn-out clothes instead of buying new ones.
- **Buy Nothing Groups** – Participating in local online groups where neighbors give away items for free.
- **Repurposing** – Finding new uses for old items, such as turning glass jars into storage containers.
- **Upcycling** – Creatively transforming waste or unwanted products into something new and valuable.
- **Thrift Shopping** – Buying secondhand items at thrift stores or consignment shops.
- **Hand-Me-Downs** – Sharing clothing, toys, or household items with family or friends.
- **Refurbishing** – Fixing and restoring furniture or electronics instead of discarding them.
- **Composting** – Reusing organic waste like food scraps to create nutrient-rich compost for gardening.
- **Community Repair Events** – Attending events where experts help fix broken items, like Repair Cafés.
- **Book Exchanges** – Swapping books with neighbors or participating in Little Free Libraries.
- **Reusable Containers** – Using glass or metal containers instead of single-use plastics.
- **Tool Libraries** – Borrowing tools from community-based libraries instead of buying them.
- **DIY Home Repairs** – Learning to do basic home repairs to extend the life of household items.
- **Reusing Packaging** – Repurposing packaging materials for storage or shipping.
- **Renting or Borrowing** – Renting items (e.g., party supplies, power tools) that are only needed occasionally.
- **Hosting "Free" Events** – Hosting events where neighbors bring items to give away.
- **Online Marketplaces** – Selling or giving away items on platforms like Facebook Marketplace or Craigslist.
- **Secondhand Appliances** – Buying or accepting used appliances that still work well.

We also shared suggestions/questions with Margo/Emily about future grants and the grant application process.

Discussed potential ‘Nicollet Corridor’ event with KFNA/TNA - for businesses/restaurants reducing waste, promoting reusable to-go containers.

**2025 Work Plan:** Currently we intend to have a plant sale, support Litter Outta Lyndale, and provide maintenance to the gardens at the LNA building. Planning a garden tour for 2026. Considering the possibility of supporting an energy conservation meeting/workshop if we can find a vendor/provider.

Proposed dates to submit to the LNA Board for our 2025 ‘save the date’ announcements:

Spring Litter Outta Lyndale - Saturday April 19, 2025 10am-noon

Plant Sale Fundraiser - Saturday May 31st , 2025 10am- 2 pm -check coordinate dates with Painter Park.

Fall Litter Outta Lyndale - Saturday October 4, 2025 10am-2pm