

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**April 5, 2012**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Facility. Mr. Jay Holley, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. The following attended the meeting:

**2. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS:**

Mr. Jay Holley	Mr. Owen Burney
Mr. Wayne Caldwell	Mr. Hugh Cox

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Council Member Marion Blackburn, City of Greenville  
Mr. Kinsey Holton, City of Greenville  
Ms. Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville  
Mr. Christopher Horrigan, City of Greenville  
Mr. Scott Godefroy, City of Greenville  
Mr. Kevin Heifferon, City of Greenville

**3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

**4. APPROVAL OF MARCH 1, 2012 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Wayne Caldwell to approve the March 1, 2012 minutes as presented. A second was made by Owen Burney and the motion passed unanimously.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. Christopher Horrigan, the City of Greenville's new Parks Coordinator at River Park North, introduced himself. He gave a quick summary of goals he would like to accomplish which includes assigning specific economic value to natural areas; increase value of current natural spaces in Greenville; to act as a catalyst for development of green practices within City government; and facilitate connections between public interests and the inherent and prescribed values of the natural areas in Greenville.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Announcements**

- Mr. Caldwell shared the fact that he received a copy of Dupont's annual report. Mr. Caldwell stated the report included Dupont's core values which are Safety and Health; Environmental Stewardship; Highest Ethical Behavior; and Respect for people and felt the City of Greenville would be well served if we were to adopt some of these values as well.
- Mr. Holley informed the group of articles in the Daily Reflector by Mr. Abramowitz reflecting comments on the environment given by Mr. Wayne Caldwell and Ms.

Laura Williamson. Mr. Holley commended the article and the positive reflection it presented on EAC.

- Mr. Holley reported there were two candidates currently interested in joining EAC. The applications are currently in review with the City Clerk's office and will be presented to City Council for approval.

## **B. Tree Preservation Presentation**

Mr. Heifferon gave a presentation on Tree Preservation. The presentation detailed the current standard for tree preservation and the proposed standard that will be presented to City Council. Mr. Heifferon also presented the group with a hand out of the preliminary recommendations by the Tree Preservation Discussion Group. The presentation and hand out will be available with the April 5, 2012 EAC meeting package.

Mr. Heifferon began the presentation by giving a summary of the current tree preservation ordinance. Mr. Heifferon then summarized the preliminary recommendations by the tree preservation discussion group as follows: increase education; offer incentives; regulation/ordinance; and other recommendations.

Mr. Heifferon explained the proposed incentive program for saving existing trees and the credit given for proposed planting of trees. Mr. Caldwell asked if the equation had been taken into consideration for the benefits of saving the existing tree (i.e. carbon dioxide consumption, water uptake, air cleaning, etc.) versus planting multiple trees. Mr. Heifferon stated he did not have any scientific correlation but would look into obtaining this information.

Mr. Heifferon also explained the current enforcement of requirements for trees in commercial development and stated it was currently on a complaint basis. He also stated the discussion group recommended review of vegetation plans by a Staff position and commented no position was available at the present time. Mr. Caldwell asked if the Code Enforcement Division or Inspections Division could be trained in reviewing vegetation plans and look at the development when called upon. Council Member Blackburn suggested adding a position when budget would allow.

Mr. Heifferon requested EAC to offer a resolution of support for the recommendations as presented for the August 2012 City Council meeting.

## **C. Presentation of Certificate to Wayne Caldwell**

Mr. Holley presented a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Caldwell for his outstanding commitment and service to EAC. Mr. Holley commended Mr. Caldwell's achievements during his tenure as a member and his service as EAC Chairperson. Mr. Caldwell thanked the members and expressed his appreciation to all.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. EAC Grant Program – Distribute Applications**

Ms. Holley directed attention to the application received from the Wahl-Coates 4-H club attached in the agenda package. Mr. Holley asked everyone to review the application and be ready to make a recommendation at the May 3, 2012 EAC meeting.

**B. Brochure for Plastic Waste – Finalizing Ideas**

Mr. Holley asked members to review the email sent by Ms. Williamson and submit recommendations to her before the May 3, 2012 meeting and be prepared to finalize the brochure at that time.

**C. Environmental “Goal” of City Council**

Council Member Blackburn reported City Council adopted value statements and strategic goals at the annual planning session held in January 2012. One of the value statements adopted was to encourage sustainable practices. Council Member Blackburn also reported four objective goals were adopted for environmental practices which include: increase recycling from 3% to 5%; create a sustainability plan; make planning decisions that represent positive environmental policies; and to consider installing solar panels at City Hall.

**D. GCPP – Discussion of Future**

Mr. Holley began the discussion by inquiring what future goals GCPP will strive to achieve. Mr. Holley stated the initial goal of the group to focus on Climate Protection, through the Mayor’s Cool Cities initiative and other goals, was achieved and a need for new focus would need to be established. Another concern for GCPP was membership and quorum with current vacant positions and lack of attendance by members.

Mr. Cox’s feelings were GCPP should become a training group for future EAC members and allowed for previous members of EAC to continue to share their expertise and serve the citizens of Greenville. Mr. Cox stated one option was to have GCPP meet with EAC and have each GCPP member report on issues or other commissions they have been monitoring and give updates.

Mr. Caldwell stated he felt GCPP had accomplished the initial goals as they were tasked for climate protection. With this in mind, Mr. Caldwell also stated GCPP would need to reorganize with new goals and increase membership to remain a viable connection for partnerships with other entities.

Mr. Holley asked members to reflect on new goals for GCPP and ways to increase membership possibilities and bring those ideas to the May 3, 2012 EAC meeting for further discussion.

**E. GCPP Update**

Mr. Cox informed the group the next GCPP meeting will be held on April 10, 2012. New members, contributions to EAC, and work on the GTV advertisements will be discussed.

**F. EECBG Update**

Mr. Godefroy reported the Block Grant program funds need to be expended by June 30, 2012. Mr. Godefroy stated that due to the lack of interest in the rebate projects staff identified on the EECBG, staff is currently working with the grant administrator to modify some of the project worksheets. If the modifications are approved, \$255,000 of the \$408,600 budget for the rebate program will be transferred to the following projects:

- Fund the additional cost of the Energy Performance Contract - \$20,000
- Upgrading the existing area lights and wall packs for the Public Works Facility, Garner Training Facility, and Hooker Road Warehouse to LED - \$100,000
- Recreation & Parks athletic field light monitoring system that will enable the City to use light systems more efficiently - \$44,000
- 8 LED scoreboards - \$80,000
- Upgrading the existing wall packs for Boyd Lee Recreation Center to LED - \$11,000

The quarter ending March 30, 2012, the City will have requested obligation for \$365,693 of the \$777,600.

Mr. Godefroy also reported the Investment Grade Audit has been submitted and will be reviewed by staff. The financial package of the audit will be presented to City Council on April 12, 2012.

Council Member Blackburn asked if solar panels had been considered as a viable option for the energy savings portion of the grant. Mr. Godefroy stated this option is still being reviewed. Council Member Blackburn also expressed concern regarding the use of wall packs. Mr. Godefroy stated the wall packs that will be modified will be more efficient than those currently in place.

Mr. Burney asked how much projected energy savings was anticipated. Mr. Godefroy answered the projected savings would be \$2.9 million over 15 years.

#### **G. Lighting Stakeholders Group Update**

Mr. Godefroy reported the Parking Lot Lighting and the Street Lighting Stakeholders Groups are continuing to meet. The object of the groups is to provide a standard of lighting for parking lots and street lights. Many options are currently being considered and the final standard recommendation will be presented to City Council for further direction.

### **8. OTHER– FYI**

#### **A. Recycling Report**

Council Member Blackburn questioned the decline in recycling for the month of March 2012. Mr. Holton will request a member of the Sanitation Division be available at the next EAC meeting for questions regarding this report.

#### **B. UST Report**

Mr. Holley asked Mr. Holton to research the possibility of having information on USTs prior to no further action statements available for reporting. Mr. Holton will follow up on this request and report finding at the May 3, 2012 EAC meeting.

### **9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – The following items are proposed for the May 3, 2012 meeting:**

#### **A. EAC Grant Program – Select Recipients**

- B. GCPP – Discussion of Future**
- C. Plastic Brochure – Design**
- D. Tree Preservation Master Plan**
- E. Recycling Update**
- F. EAC Proposed Calendar**
- G. EAC’s Mission Statement Review**
- H. GCPP Update**
- I. EECBG Update**
- J. Light Standards Stakeholders Groups Update**

**10. Adjournment** –There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.