

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES
November 1, 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. Scott Anderson	Dr. Michael Behm
Mr. Owen Burney	Dr. Robert Chin
Mr. Hugh Cox	Mr. Jay Holley
Ms. Laura Williamson	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kinsey Holton, City of Greenville
Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville
Harry Stubbs, FROGGS
Nick Rowlett, ECU, Graphic Designer
Jamie Wheeler, ECU
Bradleigh Sceviour, ECU
Nathan Williams, ECU
Chelsea Kessinger, ECU
Emily Seawell, ECU

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Holton asked for an addition to the agenda to discuss a letter of support from Community Development for the Brownfield Clean Up Grant. This topic will be added as New Business Item F.

4. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 4, 2012 MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Cox to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Behm and passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Holley recognized students visiting from East Carolina University. There were no public comments.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Announcements

- Mr. Holley informed the group of a National Geological Society of America annual conference that will be held next week in Charlotte, NC. Mr. Holley will be attending the meeting and will be giving a presentation at the meeting.

B. FROGGS Update

Mr. Stubbs was present to give an update on FROGGS projects. He reported on the following topics:

- Greens Mill Run Greenway has been extended; however, the project still requires acquisition of rights of way which will require more funds from the State and City of Greenville;
- ECU held a Fall Service Fair on August 30th in which FROGGS set up a booth;
- A Medical Center Fair was held on October 17th and FROGGS set up a booth at this event as well;
- A sign has been installed at the off-leash dog park recognizing the lock and dam system that had been established in Greenville in the 1800's;
- A grant has been received to design a sign that will be installed to feature boat designs dating back to Native American history;
- Signs are also being researched for Civil War use of the Tar River to Tarboro and the 1st African American Church;
- A meeting was held at the Unitarian Universal Church on October 22nd to celebrate the first meeting of FROGGS 21 years ago;
- The annual Friend-raiser meeting for FROGGS' will be held at the Bradford Creek Clubhouse on January 26, 2013.

C. EAC Grant Program – Current Grant Update

Mr. Holton announced the Wahl-Coates Science Club 4-H group held their kick off meeting on August 23rd with an open house to introduce the project to students, parents and staff.

A Stormwater Education Grant Kickoff meeting was held on September 27th with Heather Jacobs Deck, Riverkeeper for the Pamlico-Tar Foundation. This meeting focused on the location of the project with details regarding tests and monitoring that will be recorded for the duration of the project.

A water quality monitoring session was held on October 4th at Greens Mill Run. Monitoring will be held each month through May of 2013. Mr. Holton asked if EAC would be interested in attending one of the monitoring sessions and suggested also having the Public Information office with the City of Greenville and The Daily Reflector present. A future date will be determined and coordinated.

Mr. Holton also reported the first disbursement of the grant had been expended and the second disbursement will be requested to purchase microscopes and other materials. Ms. Williamson suggested photos from this project be included in the two-page information used to promote the Grant for the next cycle.

Ms. Williamson asked about the next grant cycle. Mr. Holton stated stormwater funds would be available. Ms. Williamson expressed concern regarding the timeline of the grant if school groups were the target audience. Mr. Holton commented the next step for the grant cycle was advertising in February 2013. This would create a need to finalize the

grant details and advertising material.

Dr. Behm asked if a subcommittee would be established to further determine the details of the advertising information and presentation of information to the school groups. Dr. Behm also asked if a list of schools was available. Mr. Holton responded a list was available and would be forwarded by email. Further discussion of this topic will be held at the December 6, 2012 meeting of EAC.

D. Service Learning – Memorandum of Understanding

Mr. Holton informed the group of that Dave Holec, City Attorney, had determined the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Service Learning with ECU could not be signed by a member of EAC as the group had no authority to enter into the contract on behalf of the City. However, Mr. Holec further explained the MOU could be entered into by the City of Greenville on behalf of the EAC. Mr. Holec also commented that all volunteers of ECU would require supervision. Mr. Holton stated the level of supervision was not determined and he would investigate further as to whom would be responsible.

Mr. Holton asked if there were any other questions or comments that EAC would like to present to further clarify the MOU. Mr. Holley stated he felt like the MOU should be given to Council Member Blackburn to be presented to City Council members to be voted on and approved. Mr. Holley made a motion to have a volunteer from EAC speak with Council Member Blackburn regarding the MOU and request the agreement be forwarded to City Council or City official for approval and signature. Mr. Cox also stated the motion should include the document could be signed by a City official if deemed appropriate. Dr. Chin and Dr. Behm volunteered to speak with Council Member Blackburn to discuss the MOU. Mr. Holley amended his motion to include the request presented by Mr. Cox and to state Dr. Chin and Dr. Behm would discuss the MOU with Council Member Blackburn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cox and passed unanimously.

E. Goals & Objectives – Suggestions for City Council

Mr. Holley asked for suggestions for goals and objectives to be suggested to City Council. Ms. Williamson stated the goals from last year should be considered as goals are long term and a work in progress. Mr. Anderson agreed and stated the goals of EAC should also be reiterated and details given as to the accomplishments of those goals. Goals listed included the EAC Grant Program, Plastics Brochure, Town Creek, Tree Preservation, Lighting Standards, and Sustainability discussion. Mr. Holley requested the minutes from last year's EAC meeting for Goals and Objectives be reviewed and presented to members via email. Ms. Williamson will also forward the presentation given to City Council in January to members.

F. Letter of Support for Brownfield Grant

Mr. Holton passed out a letter provided by Redevelopment Commission requesting support for the EPA Brownfield Grant application from EAC. Mr. Holley expressed concern regarding the development of individual personal property for financial gain using federal money and also the reflection on EAC in the selection process of the property. Ms. Williamson stated she felt if any money could be used to clean up the

environment, EAC, as an environmental group, should support the grant application. Mr. Anderson agreed and also stated the intent of developing this particular property was to revitalize downtown Greenville and increase incoming tax revenue for the City. Dr. Behm asked if there was a prioritization process for selecting properties for the grant. Mr. Holley stated the Redevelopment Commission had given presentation detailing the various locations that were potential candidates for the grant and the phases of the process that resulted in the selection of the property chosen.

Mr. Holley also expressed concern regarding the manner of request by the Redevelopment Commission to support the Brownfield Grant application. Mr. Holley indicated the letter of support as presented to him was written by the Community Development Department without input from EAC members. Mr. Holley stated the original letter presented expressed personal support of the grant application and he felt EAC should be responsible as a group to consent to the letter. Ms. Williamson agreed and stated she felt the process and consultation by which the Community Development presented the information to EAC was insufficient to make a determination to support the Brownfield application. At this time, Mr. Holley made a motion that he prepares a draft letter to support the general pursuit of a grant from EPA to obtain Brownfield money that does not reference a particular property. Dr. Chin seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Holley will forward the letter to EAC members via email for review and approval. Once the letter is approved, Mr. Holley will sign and forward to the Community Development Department.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Brochure for Plastic Waste

Mrs. Williamson introduced Mr. Nick Rowlett. Mr. Rowlett presented the group with two sample brochures for review and comments. Dr. Behm asked which plastics could be recycled within the City. Mr. Holton stated ECVC receives recycled materials within the City limits and at this time, they separate all items they receive and what is not recyclable is taken to the County landfill. Mr. Holley suggested the possibility of having the Recycling Coordinator for the City of Greenville and a link to the City of Greenville website listed as a contact for more information on recycling.

Mr. Rowlett asked if the brochure should be City of Greenville specific. Ms. Williamson stated she felt it should be City specific and all agreed.

Ms. Williamson also noted she felt some type of visual icon, picture or color scheme could be used to delineate the level of plastics from good to bad. Mr. Rowlett responded that he felt the monochromatic color of the brochure would be the most effective and adding color would detract from the overall goal.

Ms. Williamson indicated she felt the brochure needed less wording and more visuals. Ms. Williamson also stated she felt the levels of plastics and their effect on the environment should be stressed versus the negative health aspects of plastics. Dr. Chin commented he felt if the negative health aspects of plastics were addressed, the demand of plastic in the waste stream would be affected as well; therefore, both should be addressed. Mr. Holley stated the target audience of the brochure should also be considered when determining which aspect should be stressed. After further discussion, it

was determined the main focus of the brochure would be the health aspects of plastics.

Mr. Holley asked Mr. Rowlett to take the comments provided and revise the brochure discussed. Mr. Rowlett will present the revised brochure at the December 6th EAC meeting.

B. GCPP Update

Mr. Cox informed the group that GCPP worked with Lisa Kirby and Kinsey Holton on the sustainability information as requested by EAC. Mr. Holton also commented the Earth Hour City Challenge information was not completed in time to present to City Council for approval for the deadline established by Earth Hour City Challenge Committee.

8. OTHER– FYI

A. Recycling Report

B. UST/AST Report

9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – The following items are proposed for the December 6, 2012 meeting:

A. Council Presentation – Brainstorm

B. Goals & Objectives – Finalize

C. GTV-PSA- January, February, March

D. Cycle for Upcoming Grant

E. ECU Service Learning Memorandum of Understanding

10. Adjournment –There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

***Attached are documents presented at the meeting not attached to the original agenda.