

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

February 4, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Mr. Durk Tyson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present. The following attended the meeting:

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

David Ames
Ernest Larkin
Durk Tyson

Emilie Kane
Ann Maxwell
Jon Weaver

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lisa Kirby, City of Greenville
Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville
Will Broughton, FROGGS

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Dr. Larkin to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Ames seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 7, 2016 MINUTES

Dr. Kane asked that it be noted in the January 7, 2016 minutes under Old Business Item B that she had attended the Keep Greenville Beautiful board meetings to present information on the Plastics Resolution. A motion was made by Dr. Ames to approve the January 7, 2016 minutes as amended with the modification. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kane and passed unanimously.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements

6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. FROGGS Update

Mr. Broughton was present to give an update on FROGGS activities with a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation will be available with the February 4, 2016 minutes. Mr. Broughton reported recent events included an educational walk along the greenway in May, participation in the Art + Community Block Party located at 3rd Street and Jarvis Street in September, and a booth at Freeboot Friday in November.

Mr. Broughton reported FROGGS will be planning a cleanup in the spring 2016 of their shade garden. FROGGS will buy benches to install and is working with the City to possibly install a shelter at the location as well.

Mr. Broughton updated the group on benches and signs that have been installed throughout the City. These include a bench in memory of Harry Stubbs, a bench overlooking the river, new maps in kiosks along the greenway, and two educational signs along the greenway.

Mr. Broughton stated future plans of FROGGS would include additional educational markers,

amenities for new greenways, upgrading of the shade garden, participation at Piratefest on April 9, 2016. Mr. Broughton also invited EAC to attend their Friendraiser event on April 23, 2016 at the shade garden.

Mr. Tyson asked Mrs. Kirby if she could give an update on the progress of the greenways. Mrs. Kirby stated she would bring information back to the March 3, 2016 meeting.

B. Redevelopment Commission Update

Mr. Tyson reported the Redevelopment Commission gave their annual update to City Council in August 2015. Mr. Tyson further stated the Commission has worked to support the construction of the Uptown Parking Deck, as well as planning and preparation of the renovation of the Uptown Theater. The Redevelopment Commission funds grants for small businesses in West Greenville and Center City and has also been acquiring properties around the Greenville Transportation Activity Center (GTAC). The Commission has also been working on the Imperial Tobacco Brownfield site and has an update scheduled on their next meeting agenda. Mr. Tyson will report back to the EAC once this update has been provided.

C. Neighborhood Advisory Board

Mrs. Maxwell gave a brief history of the Neighborhood Advisory Board. This board is different from other Commissions of the City as board members are appointed to serve by their respective neighborhoods. There are two members from each district that serve on the 10 member board. Neighborhoods can elect liaisons to attend the meetings to provide input; however, the board has final voting rights. The board meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00pm at City Hall in conference room 337.

Mrs. Maxwell stated the Neighborhood Advisory Board works with the Police Department and this has established an assigned officer to each neighborhood. Mrs. Maxwell also reported the Board puts together a symposium in the spring of each year. This year's symposium will be held on April 30th. The symposium speaker will be William Rohe and will speak on "Factors that lead to Neighborhood Growth."

Mrs. Maxwell stated the last meeting agenda included the EAC's Plastic Resolution and Animal Control's Trap and Release Program. Mrs. Maxwell also presented a Letter of Support to from the Neighborhood Advisory Board to the EAC for the Plastic Resolution.

D. 2016-2017 EAC Grant Discussion

Mrs. Kirby presented each member with five copies of the fact sheet for the Grant for distribution by members. Mrs. Kirby also directed attention to the list of youth organizations in Greenville and requested members make contact with these organizations to promote the grant. Mrs. Kirby stated the list was not all inclusive and stated if members knew of other groups within the City limits that could apply to contact them as well.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Earth Day Subcommittee Update

Mr. Weaver stated the activities will begin on Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 9:00am and will conclude Friday, April 22, 2016. Mr. Weaver also stated over 300 RSVP's had been received for their Monday symposium. Mrs. Kirby stated that Mr. Horrigan at River Park North needs confirmation of EAC's attendance. Dr. Ames asked if EAC would be interested in partnering with the Sierra on a presentation regarding the City's Cool Cities Initiative. Dr. Ames made a motion to have EAC endorse and participate in a Cool Cities discussion at the River Park North Earth Week event. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Staff will facilitate a meeting between EAC, Sierra Club, Mr. Horrigan and Mr. Sokolovic to further discuss this item.

B. Plastics Resolution Presentation Updates

Dr. Ames presented the Plastics Resolution to Neighborhood Advisory Board. The resolution was endorsed by the Board. Dr. Kane stated the Keep Greenville Beautiful board's chair had sent an email with questions regarding the resolution, specifically definitions and clarity of single use plastic bags as well as addressing the process of accomplishing the objectives identified. Dr. Larkin made a motion to identify the single use plastic bags as grocery/shopping bags. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and this description will be added to the title of the resolution. The final resolution will be presented by Dr. Kane to the Greenville Beautiful board meeting on February 10, 2016.

Dr. Kane also noted that former EAC chairperson, Mr. Wayne Caldwell, had addressed education on plastic bags and asked Staff to elaborate on that discussion. Mrs. Kirby stated that Mr. Caldwell provided information on the various uses of plastic bags as well as their impact on the environment. Mrs. Kirby also stated that EAC had a plastic brochure has been developed and would be provided to current members for their information.

Mrs. Maxwell asked if it would be advantageous to have individual neighborhood associations to endorse the Plastics Resolution as well. Members agreed this was an excellent idea. Mrs. Maxwell will begin making these contacts.

9. OTHER– FYI

- A. Recycling Report**
- B. Brownfield Grant Letter of Support**
- C. Plastic Resolution**
- D. EAC Membership Roster**

10. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

The following items are proposed for the March 3, 2016 meeting:

- A. Earth Week Subcommittee Update**
- B. Keep Greenville Beautiful Update**
- C. Recreation & Parks Commission Update (Larkin)**
- D. Greenville Utilities Commission Update (Tyson)**
- E. Planning & Zoning Commission Update (Weaver)**
- F. Greenways Update**
- G. Plastic Resolution Presentation Update**
- H. 2016-2017 EAC Grant Update**

- 11. Adjournment** –There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Ames made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tyson and passed unanimously.