

# ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

May 5, 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  
Durk Tyson

Ann Maxwell  
Jon Weaver

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

Lisa Kirby, City of Greenville  
Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville  
Daryl Norris, City of Greenville  
Chad Carwein, ECU

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Kirby requested a discussion regarding the EAC Grant Award Ceremony be added to the agenda. Ms. Maxwell requested an update regarding plastic bags discussion be added to the agenda also. A motion was made by Dr. Ames to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Maxwell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### 4. APPROVAL OF APRIL 7, 2016 MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Weaver to approve the April 7, 2016 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maxwell and passed unanimously.

### 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Kirby informed the EAC that new audio and visual equipment is anticipated to be installed in Council Chambers and may affect the location of the August and September meetings. Staff will keep EAC up to date on any changes in location as the information becomes available.
- Ms. Kirby introduced Mr. Daryl Norris to the EAC. Mr. Norris is the new Civil Engineer II for the Stormwater Division and will become the new staff liaison to EAC. Mr. Norris gave a brief history of his work background and stated he looked forward to working with the City of Greenville and the EAC.

### 6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Carwein stated he has submitted a talent bank application form for the EAC as well as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission. Mr. Carwein also informed members he had been selected as a representative on the Non-Motorized Master Plan.

### 7. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Plastic Bag Discussion

Ms. Maxwell stated New York City has proposed a resolution to charge a surcharge of \$.05 on plastic and paper bags. If passed, proceeds from the surcharge would remain within the respective grocery stores. Ms. Maxwell stated this was an example of one of the suggested initiatives on the EAC's plastic resolution.

**B. Bicycle/Pedestrian/Greenway Master Plan Committee Discussion**

Ms. Kirby stated the City of Greenville will be initiating the development of a bicycle/pedestrian/greenway master plan (Non-Motorized Master Plan) for the entire MPO planning area. Mr. Daryl Vreeland, Transportation Planner for the City of Greenville, has requested a representative from EAC participate on the steering committee for this plan. The committee would meet 4 to 5 times over the course of the plan development for about 2 hours per meeting. The meeting would occur during regular business approximately every 2 to 3 months. Ms. Kirby asked for a volunteer from EAC to serve on the steering committee. Mr. Weaver volunteered to serve on the committee and Mrs. Maxwell stated in the event Mr. Weaver could not attend, she would serve as an alternate.

**C. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Forum Discussion**

Dr. Ames stated the Sierra Club would like to partner with EAC to conduct a forum to discuss Greenhouse Gas Emissions. This forum would be held during the August meeting of the EAC and the focus would be fossil fuels and renewable energy. Two presentations are being developed. The first would be best practices for reducing carbon footprints. The second would focus on what could be done to address greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Greenville.

Mr. Tyson asked Dr. Ames if the forum should be postponed to September meeting due to the renovations of Council Chambers. Dr. Ames will inform the subcommittee of this request and provide an update at the next EAC meeting.

Ms. Maxwell asked if ECU should be included in the forum discussions. Mr. Carwein stated he is working to update greenhouse gas inventory for ECU and would provide the information to EAC when it becomes available.

**D. Public Transportation & Parking Commission Update**

Ms. Maxwell reported the Public Transportation and Parking Commission discussed an art project for the parking deck. The Greenville Transportation Activity Center (GTAC) was discussed and bids for this project will be let in June and anticipated to be awarded in August. Ms. Maxwell stated she asked the Commission if merging the ECU Transit system with the GREAT Transit system had been considered and stated this was an issue that would have to be initiated with City Council and ECU.

Ms. Maxwell also reported the Commission discussed the issue of parking in the downtown area and the parking deck as well as new bus routes. Ms. Maxwell asked if Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) options for buses in the GREAT system had been considered and it was explained that retrofits would have to be made to the Fleet facility to accommodate CNG vehicles.

**E. Community Appearance Commission Update**

Dr. Ames stated this Commission has not met a quorum and very little information was available regarding their meetings. Council Member Godley stated due to lack of attendance, the meetings were being held quarterly; however, as staff liaison, he has assigned new members and anticipates the meetings will begin monthly.

**F. Planning & Zoning Commission**

Mr. Weaver stated the next meeting of this Commission will be on May 17, 2016 and he is planning on attending this meeting. Mr. Weaver asked Ms. Kirby if the Planning and Zoning Commission had input in the Watershed Master Plan. Ms. Kirby stated they gave input on information that would be beneficial to them in the initial stages of the Watershed Master Plan.

**G. EAC Grant Recognition Ceremony Discussion**

Ms. Kirby stated previous meetings for the grant recognition ceremonies held in June of each year recognized the previous year's grant program and award the upcoming grant recipient. Ms. Kirby stated that no grant recipient would be awarded this year and asked if EAC members would like to conduct a regular business meeting after recognizing the previous year's recipient project. Mr. Tyson asked if there were any items of business members would like to address.

Ms. Maxwell asked the procedures for consideration of items by EAC. Mr. Tyson stated the agendas are determined by issues that are brought by EAC members as well as Staff recommendations. Ms. Kirby stated draft agendas are presented to EAC for approval in November and December of each year and with new Commission members being present, it may be advantageous to review the schedule to provide additional input. Mr. Weaver suggested reviewing the 2016 goals and objectives of the Commission as well.

Council Member Godley added that he would like the EAC to consider discussion of an Earth Day event, promoting traffic circles in the City, identifying locations for solar farms, and the possibility of removing trees that have fallen and are collecting trash along the Tar River.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

**9. OTHER– FYI**

**A. Recycling Report**

**10. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

The following items are proposed for the June 2, 2016 meeting:

**A. 2015-2016 EAC Grant Recognition**

**B. Greenhouse Gas Emission Forum Subcommittee Update**

**C. Goals & Objectives Review/Work Plan**

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