

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

November 2, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. 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	Drake Brinkley
Emilie Kane	Diego LLerena
Ann Maxwell	Durk Tyson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Daryl Norris, City of Greenville
Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 5, 2017 MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Maxwell to approve the minutes of October 5, 2017 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kane and passed unanimously.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Tyson stated that Dr. Ames had forwarded an email regarding a Solar Education Conference being held on November 8, 2017 from 6pm to 8pm at the County Office complex located at 403 Government Circle Drive. Mr. Tyson encouraged members to attend if possible.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. EAC Membership Designations

Mr. Tyson noted that Council Member Godley, as Council Liaison, requested the Commission review membership designations. Mr. Tyson reviewed the current requirements and each current member's designation. Mr. Tyson stated he felt the membership designations should remain in place to maintain a level of expertise in their duties to advise City Council on environmental issues when requested. Mr. Norris stated that Council Member Godley has faced challenges filling specific designations when vacancies arise. Mr. Norris also stated no direction was given to change or remove designations; however, Mr. Norris added that he felt the designations should remain in place.

A motion was made by Mrs. Maxwell to keep the designations and requirements as they exist. A second was made by Dr. Kane. Mr. Norris stated if no changes were made, the motion and second was not required. Mrs. Maxwell added that she would like to have the motion and second stand as feedback to City Council that EAC members would recommend the designations and requirements remain. The motion passed unanimously.

B. 2018-2019 EAC Grant Discussion

Mr. Tyson directed attention to the 2018-2019 EAC Grant package included with the agenda. A list of potential applicants was provided as well. Mr. Tyson requested members make contact with organizations to inform them of the grant opportunity.

C. 2018 Goals & Objectives Discussion

Mrs. Maxwell questioned if EAC has been asked to review Environmental Impact Statements on projects in the past. Mr. Norris stated that he is unaware of any impact statements that have required review. Mrs. Maxwell expressed concerns that the Horizon's Plan isn't being utilized to its fullest potential regarding environmental impacts. Mr. Tyson suggested action items be added to goals and objectives for 2018. Mrs. Maxwell stated she would like to have EAC members investigate the Horizon's Plan to determine if there are feasible options for EAC to support in connection with environmental impacts to the City.

Mr. Norris suggested EAC include a goal for 2018 to encourage implementation of environmental initiatives from the City's Horizon's Plan. Mr. Tyson requested Mr. Norris to contact the Planning Department and invite them to attend the December 7, 2017 EAC meeting to ascertain if there are initiatives that EAC could assist with implementation in the Horizon's Plan. Mr. Tyson also added that this be added as an action item for Goal 1.

Mr. Llerena commented that he would like to consider the possibility of adding a goal to determine a market for recycling disposable plastic cups within the City. Mrs. Maxwell also suggested adding an action item for recycling at Vidant Medical Center.

Dr. Kane also suggested having Boards & Commission Reports be scheduled every six months versus quarterly reporting. Mr. Norris added that the intent of the reports was for information pertaining to environmental impacts that EAC could potentially advise on. Full Commission reports were not required. Additional, a new category will be added to the agenda for Commission reports.

Mr. Tyson asked members to review the 2017 goals to suggest updates for 2018 and be prepared to discuss at the December 7, 2017 meeting.

D. Council Presentation Discussion

Mr. Tyson asked members to review the Council Presentation attached in the agenda package and recommend edits prior to the December 7, 2017 meeting for inclusion. The presentation will be reviewed for final draft at that time.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. ECU Sustainability Update

Mr. Carwein was not present to give an update; however, Mrs. Maxwell presented information as forwarded by Mr. Carwein.

ECU has requested a sustainability fee be incorporated per student per year. This fee has been voted for approval by the Student Government and will be presented to the Board of Trustees. A consultant is working with ECU to work on a Sustainability Master Plan. More information will be provided at the December 7, 2017 meeting. Mrs. Maxwell reported that Mr. Carwein is working on a community garden on Stancill Drive.

B. Cool Cities Initiative Update

No information was provided for this item.

C. Plastic Bag Resolution Update

No information was provided for this item.

D. Volkswagen Settlement Update

Mr. Tyson reported that North Carolina has not designated which department will be responsible for administering funds. A department designation and plan must be established by December 2, 2017. Mr. Tyson will provide information when it becomes available.

9. OTHER– FYI

A. UST Report

The report was not attached to the agenda package and will be added to the December 7, 2017 meeting package.

10. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

The following items are proposed for the December 7, 2017 meeting:

A. 2018 Goals & Objectives Discussion

B. Council Presentation Discussion

C. Stormwater Annual Report

D. SWAC Update

E. Solar Conference Update

F. Chip Reader Update

G. Volkswagen Settlement Update

H. UST Report

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Ames made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brinkley and passed unanimously.