

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

February 7, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Diego LLerena, 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	

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 3, 2019 MINUTES

Dr. Kane asked that a correction to her announcement in Item 5 “Announcements” regarding the Clean Water Act be amended. Dr. Kane will send the statement as she would like it to be reflected in the minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Ames to approve the minutes as requested. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ames and passed unanimously.

5. ANNOUCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Clean Water Rules Update

Dr. Kane stated the rule has not been published in the federal register and public comments timeline is uncertain at this time. Dr. Kane highlighted some of the proposed changes of the Clean Water Act. Dr. Kane made a motion to adopt a resolution to support continued protection of small streams and wetlands under the Clean Water Act. Dr. Ames seconded the recommendation. Mr. Brinkley asked Mr. Norris if the City of Greenville would be impacted by the Clean Water Act. Mr. Norris stated the scope of regulations would have minimal impact to Greenville at this time. In addition, with no official direction of regulations, the resolution of support may be premature at this time. Dr. Kane expressed concern for a need in regulations. Mr. Norris stated that at this time he felt the need for a resolution of support was uncertain as the regulations were not definitive. Dr. Kane withdrew her motion to adopt a resolution until such a time that the regulations are more definitive and impacts to the City are determined.

B. Sustainability Resolution

Dr. Ames presented the Sustainability Resolution drafted by the Sierra Club, Cypress Group. The Resolution would recommend options for the City to improve greenhouse gas emissions, incorporate a plan of action and develop a program to include responsibility, implementation and evaluation of the programs and activities. Mrs. Maxwell made a motion to adopt the resolutions. Mr. LLerena seconded the motion. Mr. Brinkley questioned the goal of 40% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. After discussion, it was determined that the benchmark of greenhouse gas emissions levels were not established and needs to be researched to determine if the 40% reduction is an achievable goal. Dr. Ames will review the resolution to determine if verbiage in the resolution is conducive with attainment. The motion was passed unanimously. The resolution will be placed on the March 7, 2019 agenda for further discussion.

C. SWAC Report and Update

Mr. Norris gave a presentation to EAC regarding the final SWAC report with the Commission's recommendations to Council.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Council Presentation Recap

Mr. LLerena stated January 7, 2019 Mr. Tyson gave the EAC presentation to Council.

9. Commission Reports

A. ECU Sustainability Report

Mr. Carwein announced the following:

- Sierra Club will be meeting on Monday at 7pm regarding the NC Park System;
- The first ECU Sustainability film feature titled "Plastic Paradise" will be on February 21st at 6:30pm in the Blackbox Theater at the Main Campus Student Center.
- The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality reached out to Mr. Carwein and the NCDEQ Secretary will be meeting with students and faculty on Wednesday February 27th.
- ECU Staff & Faculty will be attending the Appalachian mid-year summit meeting on February 28th.
- The Cycle NC Mountains to Coast Ride will be coming to Greenville, NC on October 3rd. Riders will stop in Greenville and camp overnight in Town Commons.

10. OTHER– FYI

A. Calendar

11. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

The following items are proposed for the March 7, 2019 meeting:

A. Keep Greenville Beautiful Update

B. 2018-2019 EAC Grant – Promote

C. Sustainability Resolution Follow-up

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Maxwell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brinkley and the meeting adjourned.