

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**September 1, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the Public Works Department conference room, Dr. Shaw, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present. The following attended the meeting:

**1. ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS:**

Robert Shaw  
Ann Maxwell  
Yoshi Newman  
Jeff McKinnon  
Joshua Gardner

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Daryl Norris, City of Greenville  
Wanda Martin, City of Greenville  
Marion Blackburn, City Council Liaison

**GUEST:**

Chad Carwein, ECU

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ann Maxwell added to the Agenda:  
World Cat-Greenville as "E"  
Earth Day as "F"  
The use of Glyphosate (Roundup) as "G"

Dr. McKinnon added  
TV Publication as "H"

A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon to approve the agenda with these amendments. The motion was seconded by Joshua Gardener and passed unanimously.

**4. APPROVAL OF June 2, 2022 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ann Maxwell to approve the June 2, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. McKinnon and passed unanimously.

## 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Norris announced we have two new members and a new council liaison. And updates on some corrections to the Environmental Advisory Commission members roster.

Corrections on Roster: Spelling and phone number for Josh Gardner.

New members:

Dr. Yoshi Newman-At Large member with skills and interest in Environmental Public Health, Safety and/or Medicine.

Josh Gardner-Lawyer or other person with Knowledge of Environmental Regulations and Environmental Safety Practices

New City Council Liaison: Marion Blackburn

Mr. Norris announced we still have a remaining vacancy for a building contractor, land developer, or someone familiar with construction techniques.

Mr. Norris announced the city received, or at least moved to the next step to receive a BRIC grant from FEMA. It's called "Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities." It was previously the "Flood Mitigation Program" The city was one of ten projects in North Carolina selected for a three and a half million dollar award for a stream restoration project along St Andrew's. The City is going through the process of providing FEMA with all the information they need to process on with that.

## 6. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Carwein spoke on updates:

- ECU is seeking approval for a Sustainability Outreach Specialist and an Energy Analyst position.
- ECU is getting a design done for a roof top solar on one to three buildings.
- ECU is having a discussion meeting on installing a solar carport.
- Caitlin Cummins (a graduate of ECU) started a business called TerraBella. It's a composting business. She is leasing a space at the Pitt County recycling center. ECU has signed on as her first customer.
- Mr. Carwein will be presenting to the chancellor of ECU next Tuesday on Sustainability efforts of faculty.
- Mr. Carwein will be ready to give an update on greenhouse gas emissions inventory in November 2022.
- Wheels Bike Share program is on hold for now.
- On September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Sustainability filming discussion series will be showing a film called "My Octopus".
- ECU will continue monthly litter clean-ups.
- The NC Bike Walk Summit will be October 27-29.
- We are installing a traffic garden in Winterville. Somewhere you can practice basic bike skills.
- There is going to be a Tar River Community Science Festival on November 5<sup>th</sup> in town commons and ECU Wills building.
- Mr. Carwein is hosting a community garden leadership academy October 29<sup>th</sup> and November 5<sup>th</sup>.

- In reference to the social district and solo cups, there are plant based solo cups that would decompose in land fields or put composts up and maybe Caitlin Cummins could come and pick it up.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

**A.** Dr. Shaw reviewed the proposed document that he plans to share with the council asking the council to establish a Sustainability position. Mrs. Maxwell suggested to add “Horizon 2026 Action Plan priority 13 is to develop a Green Energy Plan and the results of the Duke study can be the first step for a Sustainability Manager use in developing the Green Energy Plan. Dr. Newman requested a workshop specifically on this issue. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss any questions the council has on any of the issues based here. Ms. Blackburn recommended finalizing the document and try to get it on the agenda then bring it to the January meeting as a presentation. Mr. Norris suggested to mention in your proposal that it be a partnership with GUC and add under what a Sustainability Manager will do.

**B.** Dr. Shaw stated he sent requests to Mrs. Wall and Brock Letchworth, saying wouldn't it be good idea to have GHG Inventory in the Daily Reflector. Dr. Shaw didn't get a response. Mr. Norris replied saying he did speak to the City's Manager earlier that afternoon. And she stated she would commit to putting out a press release on this. She directed Mr. Norris to work with the Public information office to get that press release out.

**C.** Ms. Maxwell asked the new members to read the Horizon 2026 Plan. And write down things that stand out for you. (What do we want to address? What do we want to point out to council?) Dr. Shaw suggested everyone to come up with one item out of it that we want to bring up to council and we will put it on the agenda for next meeting.

**D.** Ms. Maxwell spoke of the adoption on a new bill “The Pollution Reduction Act”. And how it would give rebates for solar. And now after Chris Baker's presentation, we understand more on why GUC don't what solar. Ms. Maxwell asked “What do we want to do?” Dr. McKinnon explained to the new members that Greenville is unsupportive of solar power generation in homes. There is no public outcry for solar power. Dr. McKinnon mentioned on how we can get an invite to speak with the GUC Board. Since they don't have a public openings or comments period and that he would talk to Mr. Smiley on seeing how to make that happen.

**E.** Ms. Maxwell spoke on “World Cat-Greenville”. World Cat manufactures boats. They are asking permission to dump 122.2 tons of VOC's in the air every year. This is just within the limits on what is allowed. With other businesses just up the road like Grady White and others north of the river, nobody has determined what is in air before you dump 122.2 tons. World Cat-Greenville did not even have a permit before they started building boats and you don't want to locate it near child centers but there is a Head Start Program directly across the street from World Cat- Greenville with 300 plus children. Mrs. Newman mentioned that there is not an air quality monitoring station in Pitt County.

Mr. Norris gave a little insight on operational permits. If they have not been issued a permit they are not subjected to the conditions to the permit yet. So they can only be in volition of operating without a permit.

Dr. McKinnon mentioned to make a motion or resolution to send to the city expressing our concerns that they are operating without a permit. And we don't know enough about the possible air quality consequences. Dr. Shaw stated he would work on a resolution that the EAC believes that when the planning committee are looking at new businesses that environmental concerns be considered.

**F.** Ms. Maxwell mentioned that they are putting together the committee for Earth Day. The people that planed it last year wants to know would it be better at the Trevathan Farm or Town Common? Mr. McKinnon answered default would be Town Common- it's more accessible. Ms. Maxwell will send out emails for more feedback.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** Dr. Shaw mentioned the NC Bike Walk Summit is later in October. And it will get moved to next meeting.

## **9. OTHER– FYI**

None.

## **10. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Horizons 2026 Plan-Maxwell
- B. Invite to GUC board-McKinnon
- C. The use of Glyphosate- Maxwell
- D. T.V. Publication- McKinnon
- E. NC Bike Walk Summit- McKinnon

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Shaw adjourned the meeting.