

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

August 15, 2023

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. McKinnon, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present. The following attended the meeting:

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Jeff McKinnon
Yoshi Newman
Thomas Trevathan
Joshua Gardner
Robert Shaw
Karin Zipf

OTHERS PRESENT:

Daryl Norris, City of Greenville
Wanda Martin, City of Greenville

GUEST:

None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 4, 2023 MINUTES

Dr. McKinnon stated that:

- “consult” needed to be changed to “consultant”
- “ There was a sentence that needed a comma”
- “Fast Production” needed to be changed to “ Fast Fashion”

Dr. Newman requested that “Ms. Newman” to be changed to “Dr. Newman”.

A motion was made by Dr. Shaw to approve the May 4, 2023 minutes with these amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trevathan and passed unanimously.

4. ANNOUCEMENTS

Dr. McKinnon welcomed Dr. Karin Zipf as the newest EAC member.

Mr. Norris announced that Dr. Karin Zipf is filling the spot of “At Large “for the EAC.

Mr. Norris also announced that the one vacancy remaining is “A Builder, Contractor, Developer or person knowable of construction practices.” Mr. Norris stated that he was talking to the clerk about this position, because it may or may not be filled.

A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon to move Clean Energy Resolution to tonight’s Old Business. The motion was seconded by Dr. Newman and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon to add Lisa Tyson’s request to tonight’s New Business. The motion was seconded by Joshua Gardner and passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Dr. Zipf mentioned that the Sierra Club wanted to request a discussion about solar electricity at the September 11th GUC meeting.

Dr. McKinnon mentioned that they can submit a request to be added to the agenda for the September 11th meeting. But if they are wanting to speak at the joint city council meeting with GUC, they would have to contact the City Clerk close to the meeting to be added in the public comment period.

Dr. Shaw mentioned that Dr. McKinnon and he both have already addressed the GUC board about solar Electricity. Dr. Newman stated that she is planning on attending the GUC board meeting on Thursday, August 17th.

Dr. McKinnon mentioned that he had sent out copies of materials to those that had attended the booth during Earth Day event.

A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon to continue taking turns signing up and attend the GUC board meeting. And to find a way to communicate to them so they know we are attending. The motion was seconded by Thomas Trevathan and passed unanimously.

Dr. Shaw suggested a follow up letter about solar rate structure, made it any better, and dropped the monthly fee, to Tony at GUC. A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon for approval to write a follow up email to GUC. Asking for an update and a time frame. The motion was seconded by Dr. Shaw and passed unanimously.

B. Mr. Gardner has nothing new from the Tree Working Group right now. Mr. Gardner stated Mrs. Maxwell was working with him on the Tree Working Group. They have a list of names who are interested. Their next step is to have an interesting meeting with those people. Hopefully they can get that to happen and have an update by the next EAC meeting in October.

C. Dr. McKinnon mentioned that Dr. Newman had sent out a draft on Plastic Bags for the next Facebook post. A motion was made by Dr. Newman to except it according to Dr. McKinnon edits. The motion was seconded by Dr. McKinnon and passed unanimously.

D. Dr. Shaw mentioned he was on a committee with Ms. Wall and the county manager. They interviewed three people. They chose Abby Kimmel. She has a degree in Environmental Science. Abby took the position and has been in training the last week to ten days. She started work on August 14th. Dr. Shaw read a letter from Ms. Wall announcing her.

Mr. Norris mentioned having a conversation with Ms. Wall about Budget/Sustainability Coordinator and Ms. Kimmel. The follow up question was “From the EAC, What do you want a Sustainability Coordinator to do?” (Specific work assignments for such a position.)

Dr. Zipf mentioned getting Ms. Kimmel familiar with the Justice 40 Grant and groups in the community. Dr. Shaw recommended Ms. Kimmel meet with Chad Carwein. To discuss any suggestions Mr. Carwein may have. Dr. McKinnon suggested in the next meeting the EAC should introduce themselves to Ms. Kimmel. Inform Ms. Kimmel on what the EAC priorities are and what they have been working on. And introduce Ms. Kimmel to other groups in the

community.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Norris did a presentation for the program for Public Information. The presentation was on how we communicate Public Information about Floodplain and public awareness. Mr. Norris also reviewed the Program for Public Information 2022 Annual Progress Report.

Two Recommendations:

- Improve the translation success by starting with working with the ECU language department.
- Broadening the twitter and Facebook to just social accounts.

A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon to approve the Program for Public Information 2022 Annual Progress Report with the two recommendations. The motion was seconded by Dr. Shaw and passed unanimously.

B. Dr. McKinnon read a letter from Lisa. (North of the River Association) Asking for the EAC to recommend support to the city. For the North of the River Association to gain access to the Wi-Fi at the Greenville Aquatics & Fitness Center. For a sensor to measure Particulate Matter.

A motion was made by Dr. McKinnon that the EAC make a recommendation that the city of Greenville work to support the request for NOTRA on placement on this monitoring device and provide internet access. The motion was seconded by Dr. Zipf and passed unanimously.

8. OTHER– FYI

None.

9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

A.

B. Clean Energy Resolution

C. GUC Board Report

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Trevathan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. McKinnon and passed unanimously.