

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**December 7, 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

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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

**GUEST:**

Abby Kimmel, NC Fellow  
Jeff Monico, Sierra Club  
Owen Bergquist, President ECO-Pirates  
Ann Maxwell, Tree Working Group

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2, 2023 MINUTES**

Dr. McKinnon stated that a few corrections was sent to Ms. Martin by email.

A motion was made by Dr. Newman to approve the November 2, 2023 minutes with these amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gardner and passed unanimously.

**4. ANNOUCEMENTS**

Dr. Newman mentioned that the swearing of new council will be Monday, 12-11-2023 at 6pm at third floor of the Greenville City Hall building.

Dr. McKinnon congratulated Jeff Monico and the members of the Sierra Club in their efforts in getting the approval of the new Solar Farm.

Dr. McKinnon announced his new book signing on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at Barnes and Noble between 2pm-4pm.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Ann Maxwell mentioned that Chris Baker from Solar Now called her and was thrilled about the progress that has been made about solar. Mr. Baker had a concern that it was only for residential and thinks it would be good for business also. Mr. Baker would like to know how he could come and talk to people about solar. Ms. Blackburn suggested getting him to come and speak to the new council.

## **6. OLD BUSINESS**

**A.** Dr. Shaw read the email sent by Dr. Zipf to the EAC members about air quality monitoring. North Carolina is seventeenth in the nation in toxic emissions. Boat manufacturing produces a lot of styrene. (997lbs styrene) Dr. Shaw and Dr. Zipf suggested inviting one or both listed speakers:

- Dr. Suzanne - ECU Public Health-Greenville, NC
- Betsy Huddleston- Regional Supervisor –NCDEQ Division of Air Quality-Washington, NC

A motion was made Dr. McKinnon to plan to invite the two individuals that Dr. Shaw mentioned at our next opportunity on the agenda where space permits. The motion was seconded by Dr. Shaw and passed unanimously.

Dr. Newman suggested having a joint meeting with council with one or both speakers.

Ms. Blackburn suggested having them come speak during a public comment period or get them added to an agenda.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** Mr. Norris stated he had previously emailed everyone a copy of the Annual Stormwater Report. This is our annual stormwater report that we turn in to NCDEQ. On how we implement the nutrient sensitive waters program. Specifically right now we are subject to the Tar Pamlico nutrient sensitive waters rules and will be soon in the Neuse rules. We will have two different overlapping regulatory programs. Our ordinance will be updated to meet the new rules. We expect that to go into effect in July 2024. We are waiting form official word from NCDEQ to proceed with the new program, then going to council for ordinance updates. The updates are already prepared and being reviewed by NCDEQ.

Mr. Norris reviewed the annual report detailing information about grants and stormwater improvement projects as well as illicit discharge investigations and development inspections.

**B.** Dr. McKinnon led a review of last year's EAC annual goals and the committee discussed the goals for 2024. These goals are to be finalized at the January meeting.

## **8. OTHER– FYI**

None.

## **9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Follow up on Air Quality Monitoring-Jan.2023
- B. EAC Goals-Jan. 2023
- D. EAC Council Presentation-Jan. 2023
- E. Community Solar-Jan. 2023
- F. Tree Working Group-Jan. 2024
- G. Clean Energy Resolution-Jan.2024

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

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