

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES
October 3, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Facility. Mr. Robert Chin, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. The following attended the meeting:

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Mr. Scott Anderson	Dr. Michael Behm
Mr. Owen Burney	Dr. Robert Chin
Mr. Hugh Cox	Dr. David Kimmel
Dr. Carolina Loop	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kinsey Holton, City of Greenville
Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Holton requested adding the discussion on the Public Service Announcement for USTs. This will be Old Business Item C. A motion was made by Dr. Kimmel to amend the agenda as noted. A second was made by Mr. Burney and passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2013 MINUTES

Mr. Burney made a motion to accept the September 5, 2013 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson and passed unanimously.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Holton announced the City will be making efforts to install solar panels at River Park North. Kevin Mulligan, Public Works Director, has requested information from EAC with regards to suggesting companies that could be considered potential sponsors for funding the project. Mr. Holton requested members email him with any suggestions they may have.
- Dr. Loop informed the group that she has accepted a position in Wake County and therefore would be resigning her position on EAC effective with this meeting.
- Mr. Holton noted the EAC grant agreement has been completed with J.H. Rose High School and the first payment will be issued in October.
- Mr. Anderson updated EAC on the steering committee meeting of the Uptown parking deck and noted the focus of this meeting was on the façade of the structure. The first conceptual layout of the structure is planned for presentation to City Council in November.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on Goals

Dr. Chin stated updates on the goals. Goals #7, 2, and 3 were discussed further below.

Dr. Kimmel reported that a student that would be working on the survey suggested by EAC. This student will not be working as a part of the Service Learning agreement with EAC; however, the project would be incorporated into Goal #5.

Dr. Chin also reported that a student was working with Lisa Kirby, Senior Engineer, on the City's sustainable initiatives for inclusion in the ICLEI report.

Goal #6 was discussed in Item A; Old Business below.

Dr. Chin stated the student working along with Ms. Kirby on sustainable initiatives was working to accomplish goal #8 and would report the information to EAC as it becomes available.

Dr. Chin reported that he would assume responsibility for Goal #9 and report the information when presented to City Council in January 2014.

B. 2014-2015 EAC Grant Funding Sources – Goal #7

Mr. Holton informed the group that Kevin Mulligan had contacted the Red Hat consultant group to ascertain funding for future grants. Red Hat has requested more information on the focus of these potential grants. Mr. Holton recommended members form a general abstract of what they would like to see the grant accomplish and submit this information to the consultant. Dr. Chin also suggested researching potential funding sources and determine their mission statement with regards to the scope of environmental responsibility practices. Dr. Behm will write an abstract for a proposed grant for the 2014-2015 year.

C. EAC Engagement – Goal #2

Dr. Chin will be responsible for collecting data regarding engagement with Council and other commissions. Mr. Holton noted that Mr. Cox had interaction with Parks and Recreations. Dr. Chin also noted that he and Mr. Cox had presented information to City Council and had also attended the Parking Deck meeting. Dr. Behm also reported that he did not attend the FROGGS meeting; however, he will make contact with Harry Stubbs with FROGGS in regards to upcoming meetings. Mr. Holton also suggested members reach out to the Keep Greenville Beautiful group.

D. Reduction in Volume of Waste – Goal #3

There was no update given with this goal.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Plastics Brochure Distribution Discussion

Mr. Holton presented the group with a draft version of the final Plastics Brochure. Upon approval of those present, printing will begin. The brochures should be available for distribution in two weeks from request of production.

Mr. Anderson asked if the Keep Greenville Beautiful grant for the educational promotion on recycling and waste reduction could be used to fund and distribute the plastics brochure. Mr. Holton will meet with Cheryl Tafoya, Recycling Coordinator, and ascertain if this funding could be utilized.

Dr. Behm also asked if EAC could partner with another organization or commission to obtain a booth at Freeboot Friday. Mr. Holton will contact the organizer of Freeboot Friday and obtain more information. Dr. Loop will also contact Heather Jacobs-Deck with PTRF to see if they will have a booth and ask if they would be willing to distribute the brochure.

B. GCPP Discussion of Alternate Ideas

Mr. Cox began the discussion by noting the advantage of GCPP as it pertained to advancing GCPP members into EAC roles and subcommittees. Mr. Cox also addressed the work of GCPP regarding recycling at the Convention Center as well as the anti-idling campaign at Wahl-Coates School. Mr. Cox asked that EAC consider recommending small projects that GCPP could organize and establish a small work group to accomplish.

Dr. Behm asked if GCPP was meeting now and Mr. Cox informed him they were not meeting as there were no members at this time; however, Mr. Cox felt that if a project was suggested for GCPP more individuals may be willing to participate. Dr. Kimmel noted that Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will be putting out their next five-year report and this may be an opportunity for GCPP to reconvene and discuss climate change in Greenville.

C. UST PSA

Mr. Holton informed the group of the interest of the Public Information Office (PIO) to do a City Scene for the UST discussion. Mr. Holton asked Mr. Cox and Mr. Burney to provide potential dates and times they would be available for a brainstorming meeting with PIO. Mr. Holton also noted that Mr. Jay Holley was available to provide input as well. Mr. Holton will set up a meeting with all involved.

8. OTHER– FYI

A. Keep Greenville Beautiful Update

Mr. Holton directed attention to the memo attached by Keep Greenville Beautiful (KGB). Mr. Holton also stated that KGB requested updates from EAC. Mr. Holton will provide this feedback to KGB.

B. Recycling Report

C. UST/AST Report

9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – The following items are proposed for the November 7, 2013 meeting:

A. FROGGS Update

B. Goals & Objectives – Review/consider suggestions for City Council

C. Parking Deck Update

D. Plastics Brochure Distribution Discussion

E. Quarterly UST/AST Report

F. Recycling Report

10. Adjournment –There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Kimmel made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Anderson and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.