

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES
August 4, 2011

1. 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. Jay Holley, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. The following attended the meeting:

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Mr. Jay Holley	Mr. Scott Anderson
Mr. Owen Burney	Mr. Hugh Cox
Mr. Wayne Caldwell	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Marion Blackburn, City Councilmember
Mr. Kinsey Holton, City of Greenville
Mr. Wes Anderson, City of Greenville
Ms. Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville
Mr. David Barham, Citizen of Greenville

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Town Creek discussion, public comment period and discussion on plastic bags and styrofoam were added to the agenda.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

5. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2, 2011 MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Cox to approve the June 2, 2011 minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burney. The motion passed unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Announcements

- Mr. Wes Anderson introduced Mr. Kinsey Holton, the new Stormwater Engineer for the City of Greenville and welcomed him to the meeting.
- Mr. Holley informed the group of the State Legislature override of the governor's veto on a wide array of environmental related agencies that could affect DENR's operation.
- Mr. Caldwell expressed concern regarding the lack of funding from City Council for EAC.

B. UST – 205 South Memorial Drive

Mr. Holley commented that the floating fuel on the water table for this property should constitute further investigation. Mr. Wes Anderson will be in touch with Ms. Kirby to ascertain the status of the situation.

C. Plastic Bags Discussion

Mr. Caldwell led the discussion by reporting that Washington, DC has put an ordinance in place that has consumers paying \$.05 per bag for plastic bags. The consumption of plastic bags has dropped by approximately 10%. Mr. Caldwell would like to explore the possibility of contacting local retailers and discussing the possibility of encouraging the use of reusable bags or paper bags versus plastic bags. Mr. Caldwell will research options available and further discussion will be held at the October 2011 meeting on this topic.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. EAC Calendar – Finalize

Mr. Caldwell commented he would like to see more information for goals and objectives be added to the calendar on new initiatives that could be considered by the group. He also suggested topics regarding GUC projects be added to the agenda. Mr. Wes Anderson recommended the group discuss all new prospective topics by the October meeting and formalize by November for consideration in the upcoming goals and objectives. As a result of the discussion, the topic of Plastic Bags will be added to the October 2011 meeting agenda and the calendar was approved as amended.

B. Environmental Awareness Grant

• **Finalize Fact Sheet**

Mr. Holley commended the work that had been done on the fact sheet and asked for comments. Mr. Caldwell expressed concern with the term “BMP.” Ms. Blackburn also expressed concern with the terminology and the potential lack of understanding and suggested “BMP” be replaced with “project” within the context of the fact sheet.

Mr. Caldwell asked if storm drain stenciling should be a project that would be considered within the grant process. He stated he felt this type of project was already well established within the community and would not impact the quality of water as substantially as other project ideas that were highlighted.

Mr. Caldwell also suggested changing the eligibility section of the fact sheet to reflect that projects located in the county, along with the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction, are not eligible under this program.

• **Discuss Call for Proposal**

Mr. Caldwell asked if details regarding the match section of the grant had been discussed by the subcommittee. Mr Caldwell expressed concern that Parent Teacher Organizations may be deterred by a monetary match and suggested that other avenues of donations, such as materials and time, be considered as a matching level consideration. Ms. Blackburn suggested changing the wording of the match grant section be amended to stress the importance of volunteer time and donated materials for matching funds as compared to the monetary unit value. Mr. Holley stated the

subcommittee for the grant will meet again and determine if there is legal ramifications for determining a set value for the matching value or if the group's recommendation could be considered.

The application package was discussed and it was noted that additional documents would potentially be added due to lack of space provided for comments requested on items. Ms. Blackburn suggested the application package be posted online and Mr. Cox commented that, once finalized, he would provide the document in pdf format that would allow fill in answers and comments to each section.

Mr. Holley discussed promotion of the grant and the need for teams to be assigned and meetings to be held with PTOs. Ms. Blackburn commented she felt the need for principals and teachers to be targeted for possible prospects as grant applicants. Mr. Holley stated he believed the group had previously discussed the issue and it was determined that teachers were included in PTO group and could therefore apply but the intent was to have parent and community involvement in the program as well.

C. Tree Protection Committee Update

Mr. Scott Anderson reported that the committee has met a total of five (5) times thus far. He stated that the committee is reviewing the current ordinance and attempting to narrow down the intent of what is trying to be achieved and determine if changes will be recommended.

D. EECBG Update

Mr. Wes Anderson informed the group that prospective contractors had toured City facilities for the Energy Performance Contract. The proposals by the contractors have been submitted. The selection process will be finalized next month with a most qualified contractor to be chosen. A Request for Proposal for consulting firms to verify contractors' means and methods has also been advertised.

E. GCPP Update

Mr. Cox gave an update on the "wiki-space" project he has set up for EAC and GCPP sharing of information. The site has various pages with photos and agendas and other areas of interest. The site is intended to allow members of EAC and GCPP to post information that can be shared with other entities and for public education. The address is <http://eacgreenville.wikispaces.com>

F. Town Creek

Mr. Wes Anderson reported that NCDENR had taken samples in the Town Creek area in May 2011. The samples were analyzed for petroleum compounds. Petroleum compounds were found; however, the levels were below the surface water quality standards. Testing will continue to occur quarterly and reported to the City by NCDENR. Ms. Blackburn asked what could be done to remediate the situation and Mr. Holley commented there were measures that could allow clean-up of the area; however, the cost associated with those efforts was expensive.

- 8. OTHER– FYI**
 - A. Recycling Report**
 - B. UST Report**
- 9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – The following items are proposed for the September 1, 2011 meeting:**
 - A. Sanderson Poultry Plant Resolution**
 - B. Brownfield Grant**
 - C. EAC Grant Program – Finalize Call for Proposal**
 - D. GCPP Update**
 - E. EECBG Update**
 - F. Tree Protection Committee Update**
 - G. GTV-PSA Discussion**
- 10. Adjournment –There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.**