



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 4, 2014

The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at City Hall Council Chambers, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Board Members in Attendance:

Robert Deegan, Mary Gay Maxwell, Mary Ann Neely, Marisa Perales, James Schissler, and Brian Smith

Board Members Absent:

Jennifer Walker

Staff in Attendance:

Erin Wood

Chuck Lesniak

Mike Personett

Kevin Theusen

Marilla Shepherd

Mike McDougal

Kathy Rock

Nadia Barrera

Matt Hollon

Mateo Scoggins

Chad Crager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL

Speakers should sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to discuss topics not posted on the agenda.

Eleanor McKinney from the American Society of Landscape Architects signed up to speak under Citizen Communications. She talked about the overall vision to include green infrastructure and sustainability in City of Austin Codenext plan.

The following citizens signed up to speak on agenda item 4a:

Keshav Srinivasan, Ivy Moore, Will Loconto, Jr., Sophia Brickerton, Will Loconto, Jimmy Nassour, Roy Waley, and Joe Bruno.

The following citizens signed up to speak on agenda item 5c:

Sue Anderson, Elizabeth Gray, Amber Forrest, Carol Reifsnnyder, Thomas Thayer, Ted Siff, Roy Whaley, Torvald Hessel, Ryan Fleming, Michael Fossum, and Zola Vega.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting of May 21, 2014.
The Environmental Board regular meeting minutes for May 21, 2014 were approved on Board member James Schissler's motion, second by Board member Mary Ann Neely, Vote 4-0-2-1. Board Members Robert Deegan and Marisa Perales abstained due to absence on May 21. Board member Jennifer Walker was absent.
- b. Environmental Officer's report on hot topics and past Board actions – Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department.
The Environmental Officer reported on the Blue Bonnet Hills project above Barton Springs.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS & POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. **Name:** Parkside Community School SP-2014-0074C
Applicant: Robert C. Thompson, Thompson Land Engineering, LLC
Location: 3207 W. Slaughter Lane
Staff Reviewer: Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Slaughter (Barton Springs Zone)
Request: Recommend Council approval of proposed redevelopment of a civic use in the Barton Springs Zone based on the proposed redevelopment offsetting potential environmental impact under Section 25-8-26 (F) (3) and Section 25-8-26 (G) (2) (*Redevelopment Exception in the Barton Springs Zone*).
Staff Recommendation: Recommended for approval
Recommendation approved on Board member Robert Deegan's motion and Board member Mary Ann Neely's second, vote 6-0. Board member Jennifer Walker was absent. See recommendation 004a.

5. **STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. Briefing on Imagine Austin green infrastructure priority program – Mike Personett, Assistant Director, Watershed Protection Department.
This item was conducted as posted. No action taken.
- b. Presentation on Restoring Land and Managing Karst to Protect Water Quality and Quantity at Barton Springs, Austin, Texas – Kevin Theusen, Ph.D., Austin Water Utility
This item was conducted as posted. No action taken
- c. Briefing on the Urban Trails Master Plan – Nadia Barrera, and Chad Crager, Public Works Department
This item was conducted as posted. Recommendation approved on Board member Robert Deegan's motion and Marisa Perales second. Vote 6-0. Board member Jennifer Walker was absent.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, Jennifer Walker, and James Schissler, P.E. No report this week.
No report this week.
- b. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., and Marisa Perales. **No report this week.**
- c. Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, and Mary Ann Neely –
No report this week.

- d. Development Committee –Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, Robert Deegan, and James Schissler, P.E. - **No report this week.**
- e. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Chair, Brian Smith, and Jennifer Walker. **No report this week.**
- f. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell Marisa Perales, and Mary Ann Neely. **No report this week.**
- g. Air Quality Committee – Jennifer Walker and Mary Ann Neely - **No report this week.**
- h. Other reports from Board members - Marisa Perales, Brian Smith and Jennifer Walker
Brian Smith reported that the Water and Wastewater Task Force is working on a matrix with strategies to obtain additional water resources and water conservation for the City of Austin.

7. NEW BUSINESS - Future agenda items

- 1. The Environmental Board requests an update on how staff is involved in the Codenext = process, particularly regarding sustainability and green infrastructure.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m.