



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, August 5 2015**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, August 5, 2015 at City Hall Boards & Commissions Meeting Room, 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

**Andrew Creel**  
**Marisa Perales**  
**Erin Gooch**  
**Pam Thompson**  
**Mary Ann Neely**  
**Michael Moya**  
**Peggy Maceo**  
**Hank Smith**  
**Mary Gay Maxwell**  
**Richard Grayum**

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Brian Smith**

**Staff in Attendance:**

Atha Phillips  
Brent Bellinger  
Chris Herrington  
Chuck Lesniak  
George Adams  
Jerry Rusthoven  
Keith Mars  
Liz Johnston  
Sue Barnett  
Sylvia Pope

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.**

**2. COMMISSION BUSINESS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**a. Officer Elections**

**The motion to nominate Mary Gay Maxwell as Chair of the Environmental Commission was made by Commissioner Mary Ann Neely and seconded by Commissioner Peggy Maceo. Vote 9-0-0-2. Brian Smith was absent and Michael Moya was off the dais.**

**The motion to nominate Marisa Perales as Vice Chair of the Environmental Commission was made by Commissioner Peggy Maceo and seconded by Commissioner Pam Thompson. Vote 9-0-0-2. Brian Smith was absent and Michael Moya was off the dais.**

**The motion to nominate Hank Smith as Secretary of the Environmental Commission was made by Commissioner Andrew Creel and seconded by Commissioner Richard Grayum. A substitute motion to postpone the nomination of a secretary to a future meeting when all commissioners are in attendance was made by Commissioner Mary Ann Neely and seconded by Commissioner Marisa Perales. Vote 9-0-0-2. Commissioner Brian Smith was absent and Commissioner Michael Moya was off the dais.**

**3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: 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.

**There was one speaker:**

- **Chris Green-Martinez spoke on the global march against chemtrails and geoengineering.**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**

a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting of June 17, 2015.

**The approval of the minutes from the June 17, 2015 Environmental Board meeting was made on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 10-0-0-1. Commissioner Brian Smith was absent.**

b. Environmental Officer's Report and hot topics – Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer

i. Discuss Commission backup material distribution

**No action taken. Item posted as conducted.**

ii. Discuss Commission meeting location

**No action taken. Item posted as conducted.**

**5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

a. Discuss and consider for recommendation the City of Austin contract with Austin Youth River Watch – R. Brent Lyles, Executive Director, Austin Youth River Watch

**The recommendation for approval was made on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and seconded by Commissioner Pam Thompson. Vote 10-0-0-1. Commissioner Brian Smith was absent.**

**6. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

a. Land Development Code Common Terms and Acronyms – Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department

**No action taken. Item posted as conducted.**

b. Overview of Land Use Review and the Development Process – George Adams, Andy Linseisen, Sue Barnett, Development Services Department, Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department

**No action taken. Item posted as conducted.**

**7. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

a. **Name:** 8818 Big View #4 SP-2014-0227D

**Applicant:** Raj and Santosh Singla; Bruce Aupperle, P.E., engineer

**Location:** 8818 Big View Drive #4

**Staff Reviewer:** Atha Phillips, Development Services Department/Environmental Reviewer; Rosemary Avila, Development Services Department/Case Manager; Brent Bellinger, Watershed Protection Department/ERM Staff

**Watershed:** Lake Austin (Water Supply Rural), Drinking Water Protection Zone

**Request:** To allow dredging up to 56 cy. 25-8-652(E).

**Staff Recommendation:** Deny

**The recommendation to postpone the item was made on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's motion and on Commissioner Hank Smith's second. Vote 10-0-0-1. Commissioner Brian Smith was absent.**

b. **Name:** Caven Boat Dock SP-2015-0202DS

**Applicant:** Caven Hubbard Scott Jr Trust; Phil Moncada agent

**Location:** 2806 Scenic Drive

**Staff Reviewer:** Atha Phillips, Development Services Department/Environmental Reviewer; Christine Barton-Holmes, Development Services Department/Case Manager; Sylvia Pope, Watershed Protection Department/ERM Staff

**Watershed:** Taylor Slough North (Water Supply Suburban), Drinking Water Protection Zone

**Request:** To allow the construction of a boat dock within a 150 foot Critical Environmental Feature buffer (Canyon Rimrock/Bluff). 25-8-281(C)(2) (B).

**Staff Recommendation:** Approve

**The recommendation for approval was made on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 10-0-0-1. Commissioner Brian Smith was absent.**

c. **Tree Protection: Regulations and Review Process – Keith Mars, Development Services Department**

**No action taken. Item posted as conducted.**

d. **Planned Unit Developments – Wendy Rhoades, Planning and Zoning Department, Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department**

**No action taken. Item posted as conducted.**

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. **Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee**

b. **Other reports from Commissioners**

## **9. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items**

**1. Final report from the Green Infrastructure working group**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 9:56pm.**

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For more information on the Environmental Board, please contact **Jessica Coronado**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443.

