



## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at City Hall Boards & Commissions Meeting Room, 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

### **Commissioners in Attendance:**

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

### **Staff in Attendance:**

**Chris Charles  
Chris Herrington  
Chuck Lesniak  
Erin Wood  
Jean Drew  
Jessica Coronado  
Joe Pantalione  
Kelly Gagnon  
Matt Hollon  
Michael Embesi  
Susan Wall**

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:12pm. Vice Chair Marisa Perales conducted the remainder of the meeting.**

### **2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**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: David King on the superiority requirements of PUDs.**

### **3. EDUCATION**

- a. Rainscape rebate –Chris Charles, Conservation Program Specialist, Austin Water Utility;  
Jessica Wilson, Education Manager, Watershed Protection Department

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

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
  - a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Commission meeting of September 2, 2015.  
**The minutes of the Environmental Commission meeting of September 2, 2015 were approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 9-0-2-0. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Erin Gooch abstained due to their absence from the September 2, 2015 meeting.**
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**
  - a. Update on Planned Unit Developments  
**Item posted as conducted. No action taken.**
6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - a. None
7. **STAFF BRIEFINGS**
  - a. Overview of City of Austin's Development Services Tree Division – Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Development Services Department  
**Item posted as conducted. No action taken.**
8. **STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - a. Watershed Protection Department's Summary of Youth Education Program Outreach during the 2015 Fiscal Year – Susan Wall, Conservation Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department  
**Item posted as conducted. No action taken.**
  - b. Briefing on the regional wastewater management stakeholder process and potential rule-making petition to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality – Chris Herrington, P.E., Manager, Water Resource Evaluation Section, Watershed Protection Department  
**The recommendation to support the regional wastewater management stakeholder process on the condition that a draft of the proposed rule is presented to the Environmental Commission at an upcoming commission meeting was approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 11-0-0-0.**
  - c. Update on the Watershed Protection Master Plan and overview of the Master Plan Problem Score Map Viewer – Jean Drew, Environmental Policy Program Manager, Watershed Protection Department  
**Item posted as conducted. No action taken.**
9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - a. Report from Chair Mary Gay Maxwell on the Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee  
**No report this week.**
  - b. Other reports from Commissioners  
**Vice Chair Marisa Perales reported that the election of three Environmental Commissioners to serve on the Joint Committee of the Parks & Recreation Board and the Environmental Commission would be placed on the October 7, 2015 Environmental Commission agenda.**
  - c. Report from Commissioner Pam Thompson on the Parkland Events Task Force

**Commissioner Thompson reported that the next task force meeting set for October will be postponed.**

- d. Report from Commissioner Erin Gooch on the Joint Sustainability Committee  
**Commissioner Gooch reported that the committee will most likely not meet until December since she is currently the only appointee to the committee.**
- e. Report from Commissioner Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyon Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee  
**Commissioner Neely reported that the next meeting for the committee is set for September 22 at 6:30pm at the Waller Creek Center in room 104.**

**10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items**

- 1. Presentation on the development standards on trees & private trees and the Urban Forest Plan**
- 2. Update on the 303(d) list and TMDLs**
- 3. Briefing and recommendation on the proposed rule-text on regional wastewater management**
- 4. Master Plan recommendation**
- 5. Elections to the Joint Committee of the Parks & Recreation Board and the Environmental Commission**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Vice Chair Marisa Perales adjourned the meeting at 9:51pm.**

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