



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, June 15, 2016**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at City Hall in the Council Chambers at 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**  
**Michael Moya**  
**Pam Thompson**  
**Peggy Maceo**  
**Richard Grayum**  
**Linda Guerrero**

**Staff in Attendance:**

Chuck Lesniak  
Jessica Coronado  
Andrea Bates  
Mike McDougal  
Sylvia Pope  
Oscar Garza  
Jerry Rusthoven  
Sherry Sirwaitis  
Greg Guernsey  
Sue Barnett  
Reem Zoum  
Keith Mars

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Marisa Perales called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.**

**2. 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:**

**-Bruce Wiland spoke on erosion controls.**

**3. EDUCATION**

a. None

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**

- a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of June 1, 2016. **The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of June 1, 2015 were approved on Commissioner Peggy Maceo's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 10-1. Commissioner Hank Smith was absent.**

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**

- a. None

**6. STAFF BRIEFINGS & POSSIBLE ACTION\***

- a. La Loma Timeline – Oscar Garza, Watershed Protection Department  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

**7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. Briefing on Wastewater Service Extension Request #3800 Austin Waldorf School – Kelly Gagnon, Research Analyst Senior, Watershed Protection Department  
**The recommendation to approve the Wastewater Service Extension Request #3800 Austin Waldorf School was made on Commissioner Richard Grayum's motion and on Commissioner Andrew Creel's second. Vote 10-1. Commissioner Hank Smith was absent.**
- b. Briefing on the proposed amendments to City Code, Chapter 15-2 Drainage Utility – Saul Nuccitelli, Consulting Engineer, Watershed Protection Department  
**The recommendation to approve the proposed amendments to City Code, Chapter 15-2 as proposed by staff was made on Commissioner Andrew Creel's motion and on Commissioner Pam Thompson's second. Vote 7-3-1. Commissioners Marisa Perales, Erin Gooch, and Linda Guerrero voted against and Commissioner Hank Smith was absent.**
- c. Review and recommend the Watershed Protection Department's FY17 Budget  
**The recommendation to approve the Watershed Protection Department's FY17 budget with consideration of a bond specifically to address funding for drainage infrastructure per the Flood Mitigation Task Force's final report recommendations was made on Commissioner Erin Gooch's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 8-2-1. Commissioners Michael Moya and Richard Grayum abstained and Commissioner Hank Smith was absent.**

**There were two speakers:**

- Elloa Matthews
- Carol Olewin

- d. Discuss and consider a recommendation to the City Council regarding the proposed SH45 Southwest tollway – Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer, Watershed Protection Department  
**This item was postponed to the regular Environmental Commission meeting of July 6, 2016.**

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. **Name:** The Grove at Shoal Creek Planned Unit Development (D-10) (**Hearing Closed**)  
**Applicant:** ARG Bull Creek, LTD (Garrett Martin)  
**Location:** 4205 Bull Creek Road  
**Staff Reviewer:** Jim Dymkowski, Development Services Department/Environmental Staff; Sherri Sirwaitis, Planning & Zoning Department/Case Manager.  
**Watershed:** Shoal Creek Watershed

**Request:** Review and consider for recommendation the environmental aspects of the proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD), including code modifications and environmental superiority.  
**Staff Recommendation:** Recommended with conditions.

**The motion to extend the meeting beyond 10pm was approved on Commissioner Peggy Maceo's motion and on Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second. Vote 10-1. Commissioner Hank Smith was absent.**

**Commissioner Richard Grayum's made a motion with a second from Commissioner Andrew Creel to recommend approval of The Grove at Shoal Creek Planned Unit Development as environmentally superior but not parkland superior, with the conditions from staff and two conditions from the Environmental Commission to install underdrains on the downstream side of all roadways adjacent to Idlewild and to allow the 20 foot greenbelt behind 45<sup>th</sup> Street be used as an alley, as well as a greenbelt, for residents on 45<sup>th</sup> Street. This motion failed due to an approved substitute motion.**

**The substitute motion made by Commissioner Peggy Maceo with a second from Commissioner Mary Ann Neely recommended denial of The Grove at Shoal Creek Planned Unit Development due to a lack of environmental superiority. Vote 6-4-1. Commissioner Hank Smith was absent.**

## **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Marisa Perales, Erin Gooch, Pam Thompson, and Hank Smith
- b. Development Committee –Marisa Perales, Richard Grayum, Erin Gooch, Pam Thompson, and Hank Smith
- c. Water Quality Regulations Committee - Mary Ann Neely, Brian Smith, Peggy Maceo, Erin Gooch, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Richard Grayum, and Andrew Creel
- d. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Erin Gooch, Andrew Creel, and Pam Thompson
- e. Air Quality Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Erin Gooch, Andrew Creel, Pam Thompson and Linda Guerrero
- f. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Linda Guerrero and Erin Gooch
- g. Report on the Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee – Marisa Perales
- h. Report from Pam Thompson on the Parkland Events Task Force
- i. Report from Erin Gooch on the Joint Sustainability Committee
- j. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyon Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee

k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, Linda Guerrero and Michael Moya

l. Other reports from Commissioners

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

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Marisa Perales adjourned the meeting at 11:19pm.**

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