



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 7, 2016

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at City Hall in the Council Chambers at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Andrew Creel
Richard Grayum
Linda Guerrero
Peggy Maceo
Michael Moya
Mary Ann Neely
Marisa Perales
Brian Smith
Hank Smith
Pam Thompson

Commissioners Absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

Sue Barnett
Kaela Champlin
Jessica Coronado
Mary J. Fear
Oscar Garza
Chuck Lesniak
Mike McDougal
Sylvia Pope
Christine Whitney

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marisa Perales called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

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.

3. EDUCATION

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of August 17, 2016. **The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of August 17, 2016 were approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and on Commissioner Andrew Creel's second.**

Vote 6-1-3. Commissioners Marisa Perales, Brian Smith and Pam Thompson abstained. Commissioner Linda Guerrero was off the dais.

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

a. None

Chuck Lesniak spoke and introduced Kaela Champlin.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS*

a. Update on the City of Austin’s Brownfields Program – Mary J. Fear, Brownfields Grant Coordinator and Christine Whitney, Program Manager, Austin Resource Recovery

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

a. None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

a. **Name:** Overlook at Spicewood Springs, SPC-2015-0317C (D-10)

Applicant: Lawrence Hanrahan, PE (512) 402-6878

Location: 4920 Spicewood Springs Rd

Staff: Sylvia R. Pope, Hydrogeologist, Watershed Protection Department

Watershed: West Bull Creek Watershed (Water Supply Suburban), Drinking Water Protection Zone

Request: To reduce the Critical Environmental Feature (CEF) buffers of 2 canyon rimrocks (RR-1 and RR-2) from the standard 150-foot distance. LDC 25-8-281(C)(1)(a)

Staff Recommendation: Recommended for approval with conditions.

Reasons for Recommendation: The findings of fact have been met.

Motion to close the public hearing by Marisa Perales and was seconded by Commissioner Pam Thompson. Vote 10-0-0.

The Environmental Commission recommended the approval of the request on Commissioner Hank Smith’s motion and was seconded by Commissioner Mary Ann Neely. Vote 10-0-0.

b. **Name:** Austin Oaks Planned Unit Development, C814-2014-0120

Owner: Twelve Lakes, LLC (Jon Ruff)

Agent: Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody (Michael Whellan)

Location: Southwest corner of Mopac Expressway and Spicewood Springs Road (3409, 3420, 3429, 3445, 3520, 3636, 3701, 3721, 3724, and 3737 Executive Center Drive and 7601, 7718, and 7719 Wood Hollow Drive)

Staff: Andrew Moore, Senior Planner, Planning and Zoning Department; Andrea Bates, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department

Watershed: Shoal Creek Watershed (Urban)

Request: Review and consider for recommendation the environmental aspects of the proposed PUD, including modifications and environmental superiority

Staff Recommendation: Recommended with conditions

The Environmental Commission granted the request for postponement of Item 8b.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, and Hank Smith

b. Development Committee –Marisa Perales, Richard Grayum, Pam Thompson, and Hank Smith

- c. Water Quality Regulations Committee - Mary Ann Neely, Brian Smith, Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Richard Grayum, and Andrew Creel
- d. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Andrew Creel, and Pam Thompson
- e. Air Quality Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Andrew Creel, Peggy Maceo, and Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero
- f. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero and Mary Ann Neely
- 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 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 – Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, and Michael Moya
- l. Other reports from Commissioners

10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

- a. Discuss Environmental Commission retreat – Kaela Champlin, Watershed Protection Department
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Marisa Perales adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. For additional information, please call **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Environmental Commission, please contact **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443.

** A member of the public may not address a board or commission at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing, per City Code Section 2-1-144(E).*