



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 1, 2017

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at City Hall in the Boards and Commissions room at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

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

Commissioners Absent:

Marisa Perales
Pam Thompson

Staff in Attendance:

Andrea Bates
Kaela Champlin
Tom Curran
Scott Hiers
Kelly Gagnon
Gary Gregson
Chuck Lesniak

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Peggy Maceo called the meeting to order at 6:02 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.

David Todd spoke on behalf of the South River City Citizens Neighborhood Association (SRCC) regarding the City's recent offer to buy the Central Warehouse Tract from AISD for its development as a park. The SRCC requested that the Commission consider this issue at the next Environmental Commission meeting.

3. EDUCATION

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

a. Approve the revision to the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of December 7, 2016

The revision to the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of December 7, 2016 was approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Andrew Creel and Michael Moya were off the dais. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.

- b. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of January 18, 2017 **The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of January 18, 2017 were approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Andrew Creel and Michael Moya were off the dais. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.**

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

- a. None

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS*

- a. None

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Discuss and consider options for Environmental Commission engagement in CodeNEXT review.

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. **Name:** 88.2 Acre Gragg Tract
Applicant: Gragg Tract, LP
Location: W FM 1626 Rd, Austin, Texas
Staff: Kelly Gagnon, Research Analyst Senior, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Little Bear Creek Watershed, Barton Springs Zone & Suburban Watershed Regulation Areas
Request: Water Service Extension Request (SER) #3473 recommendation
Staff Recommendation: Not recommended for approval
Reasons for Recommendation: The proposed extension would facilitate increased development intensity in a sensitive environmental area outside of the City of Austin Full Purpose jurisdiction. **A motion to postpone the public hearing and agenda item 8a until February 15, 2017 was approved on Commission Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second. Vote 6-0. Commissioners Andrew Creel and Michael Moya were off the dais. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.**
- b. **Name:** 88.2 Acre Gragg Tract
Applicant: Gragg Tract, LP
Location: W FM 1626 Rd, Austin, Texas
Staff: Kelly Gagnon, Research Analyst Senior, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Little Bear Creek Watershed, Barton Springs Zone & Suburban Watershed Regulation Areas
Request: Wastewater Service Extension Request (SER) #3474 recommendation
Staff Recommendation: Not recommended for approval
Reasons for Recommendation: The proposed extension would facilitate increased development intensity in a sensitive environmental area outside of the City of Austin Full Purpose jurisdiction. **A motion to postpone the public hearing and agenda item 8b until February 15, 2017 was approved on Commission Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second. Vote 6-0. Commissioners Andrew Creel and Michael Moya were off the dais. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.**

- c. **Name:** WK 281
Applicant: WK 281 Bear Creek Ltd.
Location: Bliss Spillar Rd, Manchaca, Texas
Staff: Kelly Gagnon, Research Analyst Senior, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Little Bear & Bear Creek Watersheds, Barton Springs Zone
Request: Water Service Extension Request (SER) #3530 recommendation
Staff Recommendation: Not recommended for approval
Reasons for Recommendation: The proposed extension would facilitate increased development intensity in a sensitive environmental area outside of the City of Austin Full Purpose jurisdiction.
A motion to postpone the public hearing and agenda item 8c until February 15, 2017 was approved on Commission Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second. Vote 6-0. Commissioners Andrew Creel and Michael Moya were off the dais. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.
- d. **Name:** WK 281
Applicant: WK 281 Bear Creek Ltd.
Location: Bliss Spillar Rd, Manchaca, Texas
Staff: Kelly Gagnon, Research Analyst Senior, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Little Bear & Bear Creek Watersheds, Barton Springs Zone
Request: Wastewater Service Extension Request (SER) #3531 recommendation
Staff Recommendation: Not recommended for approval
Reasons for Recommendation: The proposed extension would facilitate increased development intensity in a sensitive environmental area outside of the City of Austin Full Purpose jurisdiction.
A motion to postpone the public hearing and agenda item 8d until February 15, 2017 was approved on Commission Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Linda Guerrero's second. Vote 6-0. Commissioners Andrew Creel and Michael Moya were off the dais. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.
- e. **Name:** Zilker Metropolitan Park Trailhead Restrooms, SPC-2012-0104D(R3)
Applicant: City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department
Location: Zilker Metropolitan Park, 2210 ½ William Barton Drive
Staff Reviewer: Gary Gregson, Project Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department
Watershed: Barton Creek and Lady Bird Lake (Barton Springs Zone)
Request: Amend City Code Section 25-8-514 (Pollution Prevention Required) and grant variances to Section 25-8-261 (Critical Water Quality Zone Development) to allow the site to exceed impervious cover limits, modify pollution control requirements, and allow development of a restroom and associated facilities within the Critical Water Quality Zone.
Staff Recommendation: Recommended for approval
Reason: The proposed project will result in a net decrease of impervious cover on the site and will provide water quality enhancements and innovative stormwater management.
A motion to recommend the request was approved on Commission Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Andrew Creel's second. Vote 8-0. Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were absent.

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 Forest Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero and Mary Ann Neely
Commissioner Peggy Maceo gave an update on the Urban Forest Committee.
- g. Report on the Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee – Marisa Perales
- h. Report from Pam Thompson on the Visitor Impact 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. **Commissioner Mary Ann Neely requested a briefing on the Holdsworth Center Planned Unit Development Assessment.**

11. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Peggy Maceo adjourned the meeting at 6:40 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).*