



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 26, 2017

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Linda Guerrero
Marisa Perales
Brytne Kitchin
Wendy Gordon
Pam Thompson
Peggy Maceo
Mary Ann Neely
Brian Smith
Hank Smith

Commissioners Absent:

Andrew Creel

Staff in Attendance:

Sue Barnett
Andrea Bates
Kaela Champlin
Chuck Lesniak
Erin Wood
Keith Mars
Greg Guernsey
Taylor Horton

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Perales called the meeting to order at 6:00 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.

Pinaki Ghosh spoke about pollution in Ebony Acres Neighborhood.

Mike Cannatti spoke about parks and historic preservation tourism efforts relating to the Visitor Impact Task Force.

3. EDUCATION

a. None

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

a. Legislative update

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

- b. BCCP and City of Austin development requirements
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS*

- a. None

6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Election of Environmental Commission officers for the May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018 term.

A motion to nominate Commissioner Perales as Chair of the Environmental Commission for the May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018 term was approved on Commissioner Maceo's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Creel was absent.

A motion to nominate Commissioner Maceo as Vice Chair of the Environmental Commission for the May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018 term was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Hank Smith's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Creel was absent.

A motion to nominate Commissioner Hank Smith as Secretary of the Environmental Commission for the May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2018 term was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Maceo's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Creel was absent.

- b. Briefing on CodeNEXT: Environmental, Landscape, Drainage and Trees – Matt Hollon, Environmental Conservation Program Manager, Watershed Protection Department; Sue Barnett, Environmental Policy Program Manager, Development Services Department; and Keith Mars, City Arborist, Development Services Department

Erin Wood, Principal Planner, Watershed Protection Department spoke in place of Matt Hollon. Greg Guernsey, Director of Development Services Department spoke. The Environmental Commission Development Committee plans to schedule a meeting relating to CodeNEXT.

Speakers

**Lauren Ice, CodeNEXT Advisory Group Member
Roy Waley, Austin Sierra Club**

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. None

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Linda Guerrero and Wendy Gordon
- b. Development Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Mary Ann Neely and Brytne Kitchin
- c. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Linda Guerrero and Wendy Gordon

- d. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, Andrew Creel and Pam Thompson
- e. Air Quality Committee –Mary Ann Neely, Pam Thompson, Wendy Gordon and Andrew Creel
- f. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely and Wendy Gordon
- g. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Hank Smith and Brian Smith
Commissioner Perales gave a report on the Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee.
- h. Report from Pam Thompson on the Visitor Impact Task Force
Commissioner Thompson gave a report 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 – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo and Linda Guerrero
- l. Other reports from Commissioners

9. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

- a. **None**

10. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Perales adjourned the meeting at 8:57 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).*