



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at City Hall in the Boards and Commissions Room at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

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

**Commissioners Absent:**

**None**

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Sue Barnett**  
**Kaela Champlin**  
**Oscar Garza**  
**Scott Hiers**  
**Matt Hollon**  
**Taylor Horton**  
**Mike Kelly**  
**Chuck Lesniak**  
**Atha Phillips**  
**Erin Wood**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Perales called the meeting to order at 6:04 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.*

**Mike Cannatti spoke about the Visitor Impact Task Force.**

**3. EDUCATION**

a. None

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
- a. Approve the minutes of the special called Environmental Commission meeting of April 26, 2017  
**A motion to approve the minutes of April 26, 2017 was approved on Commissioner H. Smith's motion, Commissioner Kitchin's second on a 10-0 vote.**
  - b. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of May 3, 2017  
**A motion to approve the minutes of May 3, 2017 was approved on Commissioner Gordon's motion, Commissioner Guerrero's second on a 10-0 vote.**

5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**
- a. Update on SH 45SW  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS\***
- a. None

7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
- a. Update on Ebony Acres Area—Oscar Garza, Environmental Compliance Specialist Senior, Watershed Protection Department  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  - b. Update on the Visitor Impact Task Force recommendations regarding parks and historic preservation—Dan Keshet, Parks Community Representative, Visitor Impact Task Force  
**Item 7b was cancelled and removed from the agenda.**
  - c. Discuss and consider making a recommendation regarding CodeNEXT  
**A motion to recommend the Development Committee's recommendation regarding CodeNEXT was approved with changes on Commissioner H. Smith's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 10-0 vote.**

**A motion to recommend CodeNEXT Consultants, City Staff, and the City Manager to include the Environmental Commissioners as a review Commission for CodeNEXT in the article 25-1B: Responsibility for Administration was approved on Commissioner Neely's motion, Commissioner Guerrero's second on a 10-0 vote.**

**Speakers**  
**Sharlene Leurig**  
**Frances Acuna**  
**Evita Cruz**  
**Irene Castaneda**  
**Anna Perez**  
**Carmen Llanes Pulido**  
**David King**  
**Barbara McArthur**

- d. Discuss and consider Environment Texas Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Resolution  
**A motion to extend the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting of May 17, 2017 until 10:15 P.M. was approved on Commissioner Perales' motion, Commissioner Thompson's second on a 10-0 vote.**

**A motion recommending green stormwater infrastructure was approved on Commissioner Perales' motion, Commissioner H. Smith's second on a 10-0 vote.**

**Speakers**

**Brian Zabcik**

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. **Name:** Settle Boat Dock, SP-2017-0032D (D-10)  
**Applicant:** Rick Raspberry  
**Location:** 3825 Westlake Drive, Austin, TX  
**Staff:** Scott Hiers, Senior Environmental Scientist, Watershed Protection Department and  
Atha Phillips, Senior Environmental Reviewer, Development Services Department  
**Watershed:** Lake Austin Water Supply Rural Drinking Water Protection Zone  
**Request:** To allow construction of a boat dock within several 150 foot Critical Environmental  
Feature Buffers (2) Canyon Rimrocks and (2) Springs. 25-8-281(C)(2)(b).  
**Staff Recommendation:** Recommended for approval with conditions  
**Reasons for Recommendation:** Findings of fact have been met

**Item 8a was taken up before Items 7a through 7d.**

**A motion to postpone Item 8a failed on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 3-7 vote.**

**A motion to recommend approval of the variance request to allow construction of a boat dock within several 150' critical environmental feature buffers in accordance with section 25-8-281(C)(2)(b) with conditions was approved on Commissioner H. Smith's motion, Commissioner Gordon's second on a 9-1 vote.**

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

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

- a. **Commissioner Creel requested a presentation on spills and complaints response regarding Environmental issues**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Perales adjourned the meeting at 10:15 P.M.**

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*\* 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).*