



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

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

Commissioners in Attendance:

**Alesha Istvan
Wendy Gordon
Linda Guerrero
Mary Ann Neely
Brytne Kitchin
Peggy Maceo
Marisa Perales
Pam Thompson**

Commissioners Absent:

**Andrew Creel
Brian Smith
Hank Smith**

Staff in Attendance:

**Brent Bellinger
Kaela Champlin
Kellee Coleman
Liz Johnston
Chuck Lesniak
Brion Oaks
Mateo Scoggins**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice 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.

Lauren Ice of Save Our Springs Alliance (SOS) spoke about SOS comments on the Watershed Protection Department's analysis of proposed impervious cover entitlements for CodeNEXT.

3. EDUCATION

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

**a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Commission regular meeting of June 7, 2017
A motion to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2017 Environmental Commission regular meeting was approved on Commissioner Maceo's motion, Commissioner**

Thompson's second on a 8-0 vote. Commissioners Creel, B. Smith and H. Smith were absent.

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

- a. Discuss and consider process for submittal of presentation materials for Environmental Commission regular meetings and committee meetings.

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS*

- a. Presentation on the City's equity assessment tools and strategies—Brion Oaks, Chief Equity Officer, Management Services

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

- b. Zebra mussels in Lake Travis—Liz Johnston, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

- c. Lake Austin Drawdown Mussel Survey Briefing—Liz Johnston, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Central Texas Freshwater Mussel Research Program and Stakeholder Process—Meghan E. Hope, Research Team Lead, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. None

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection 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. Air Quality Committee –Mary Ann Neely, Pam Thompson and Wendy Gordon

- d. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely and Wendy Gordon

Commissioner Thompson gave an update on Austin's Urban Forest Plan.

- e. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Hank Smith and Brian Smith

- f. Report from Pam Thompson on the Visitor Impact Task Force

Commissioner Thompson gave an update on the Visitor Impact Task Force report.

- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee

Commissioner Neely gave an update 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
Commissioner Guerrero gave an update on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board.

10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items
a. None

11. ADJOURNMENT
Commissioner Perales adjourned the meeting at 8:53 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).*

12.