



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 18, 2017

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at City Hall in the Boards and Commissions Room at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Andy Creel
Mary Ann Neely
Peggy Maceo
Hank Smith
Linda Guerrero
Wendy Gordon
Brian Smith

Commissioners Absent:

Marisa Perales
Pam Thompson
Alesha Istvan
Brytne Kitchin

Staff in Attendance:

Brent Bellinger
Kaela Champlin
Chuck Lesniak
Andrew Linseisen
Sherri Kuhl
Kevin Thuesen
Atha Phillips

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Maceo called the meeting to order at 6:09 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.

Speakers

Malcolm Yeatts spoke requesting the City of Austin purchase an environmentally sensitive tract of land at 4530 Ben White Boulevard.

3. EDUCATION

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of October 4, 2017
(5 minutes)

The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of October 4, 2017 were approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Guerrero was off the dais. Commissioners Kitchin, Perales, Istvan and Thompson were absent.

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

- a. Discuss upcoming committee meetings related to CodeNEXT.
Item conducted as posted. No action taken

6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS***

- a. None

7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. Make a recommendation regarding a proposed agreement with Austin Independent School District establishing site development standards and allowing transfers of impervious cover for redevelopment of school campuses within the Barton Springs Zone—Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer, Watershed Protection Department and Andrew Linseisen, Assistant Director, Development Services Department (**1 hour**)

Speakers

Cynthia Wilcox

A recommendation to approve the proposed agreement with Austin Independent School District establishing site development standards and allowing transfers of impervious cover for redevelopment of school campuses within the Barton Springs Zone was approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Kitchin, Perales, Istvan and Thompson were absent.

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. Conduct a Public Hearing as required under City Code Section 14-1-34 (Procedure for renaming a Facility) to receive public comment regarding the proposed renaming of the Slaughter Creek Management Unit to the Mary Gay Maxwell Management Unit, and make a recommendation to Council regarding the proposed renaming – Kevin Thuesen, Environmental Conservation Program Manager and Sherri Kuhl, Environmental Conservation Division Manager, Austin Water Utility (**30 minutes**)

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Kitchin, Perales, Istvan and Thompson were absent.

A recommendation to approve the request to rename the Slaughter Creek Management Unit to the Mary Gay Maxwell Management Unit was approved on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion, Commissioner Guerrero's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Kitchin, Perales, Istvan and Thompson were absent.

- b. **Name:** 4213 Waters Edge Cove, SP-2017-146D (D-10)

Applicant: Janis Smith

Location: 4213 Waters Edge Cove, Austin, Texas 78731

Staff: Brent Belling, Ph.D., Environmental Scientist Senior, Watershed Protection Department and Atha Phillips, Senior Environmental Reviewer, Development Services Department

Watershed: Lake Austin Watershed

Request: Variance request is as follows:

To allow a bulkhead built in front of an existing bulkhead to extend beyond the allowed 6" to 1' [25-8-368(D)]

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval, with condition of providing twelve 1-gallon plantings, beyond what is currently required by code commensurate with the shoreline work, as compensation for the additional lost water area.

Reason for Recommendation: Findings of Fact have been met
(30 minutes)

Item 8b was postponed until the November 15, 2017 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting.

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 Maceo gave an update on the Urban Forestry Committee Meeting of October 16, 2017.
- 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
- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee
- j. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyonlands 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
Commissioner Neely gave an update on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board.
- l. Other reports from Commissioners
Commissioner Guerrero gave an update on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board.

10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

- a. Request for information on boat dock variances granted by the Board of Adjustments.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Maceo adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM

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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).*