



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, May 15, 2019**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78701.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

**Brian Smith**  
**Pam Thompson**  
**Katie Coyne**  
**Mary Ann Neely**  
**Linda Guerrero**  
**Peggy Maceo**  
**Wendy Gordon**  
**Kevin Ramberg**

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Curtis Smith**  
**Andrew Creel**

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Kaela Champlin**  
**Virginia Collier**  
**Chris Herrington**  
**Atha Phillips**  
**Jose Guerrero**  
**Christina Romero**  
**Sara Hartley**  
**Mateo Scoggins**  
**Matt Hollon**  
**Kelly Gagnon**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Guerrero 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.*

**Speakers**

**Lauren Ice**

**3. EDUCATION**

a. Texas Campaign for the Environment Update—Andrew Dobbs, Texas Campaign for the Environment (**10 mins**)

**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
  - a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of May 1, 2019 **(5 minutes)**  
**The minutes of the Environmental Commission meeting of May 1, 2019 were approved on Commissioner Thompson’s motion, Commissioner Neely’s second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent.**
  
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER’S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**
  - a. Update on Villas on Rio Grande (SP-2018-0362C.SH) Heritage Tree variance **(5 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  
6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS\***
  - a. Update on water quality trends in streams and reservoirs in Austin: 1984 to 2018—Mateo Scoggins, Program Manager III, Watershed Protection Department **(15 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  
  - b. Update on Watershed Protection Department 2019 Master Plan—Matt Hollon, Planning Manager, Watershed Protection Department **(15 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  
  - c. Update on 2018 State of Our Environment Report—Kaela Champlin, Project Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department **(15 minutes)**  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
  
7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - a. Review and recommend approval to include Austin Water Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone—Christina Romero, Financial Manager II, Austin Water **(10 minutes)**  
**A motion to recommend approval to include Austin Water Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone was approved on Commissioner Guerrero’s motion, Commissioner Coyne’s second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent.**
  
8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
  - a. **Name:** Austin Green Improvement District No. 1, C12M-2018-0005  
**Applicant:** Steven Spears, GroundWork  
**Location:** 11600-12337 Harold Green Road (2 Mile ETJ)  
**Staff:** Virginia Collier, Planner Principal, Planning and Zoning Department and Atha Phillips, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department  
**Watershed:** Elm Creek, Colorado River Basin  
**Request:** Consider a petition requesting City consent to the creation of the Austin Green Improvement District No. 1 and make a recommendation to Council on the petition.  
**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends City Council approve a Consent Agreement and a Strategic Partnership Agreement for the Austin Green Improvement District No. 1.  
**Note:** The Austin Green Planned Unit Development application (C814-2018-0154) may be discussed but no action will be taken.  
**(30 minutes)**  
**A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Gordon’s motion, Commissioner Coyne’s second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent. Commissioner Ramberg recused.**

**A motion to approve a Consent Agreement and a Strategic Partnership Agreement for the Austin Green Improvement District No. 1 was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Coyne's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners C. Smith and Creel were absent. Commissioner Ramberg recused.**

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee –Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, and Wendy Gordon
- b. Development Committee –Pam Thompson and Wendy Gordon
- 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
- e. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee –Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, and Brian Smith
- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
- j. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee – Mary Ann Neely
- k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, Linda Guerrero, and Pam Thompson
- l. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
- m. Report on the Zilker Park Working Group – Mary Ann Neely
- n. Other reports from Commissioners

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

- a. None

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 8:27 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).*