



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Perry Bedford
Andy Creel
Pam Thompson
Linda Guerrero
Wendy Gordon
Mary Ann Neely
Katie Coyne
Kevin Ramberg
Peggy Maceo

Commissioners Absent:

Curtis Smith

Staff in Attendance:

Brent Bellinger
Tom Ennis
Sara Hartley
Chris Herrington
Keith Mars
Wendy Rhoades
Naomi Rotramel

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:06 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

Trace VanOrden

3. EDUCATION

- a. Update from Save Our Springs Alliance—Bobby Levinski, Attorney, Save Our Springs Alliance
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

- a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of July 17, 2019
(5 minutes)
A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of July 17, 2019 was approved by Commissioner Gordon, second by Neely on a 6-0 vote.

Commissioners Bedford, Creel, and Ramberg abstained. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

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

- a. Organizational updates (5 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS*

- a. None

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Update on harmful algae bloom in Lady Bird Lake—Watershed Protection Department (10 minutes)

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

- b. Presentation on the Heritage Tree Ordinance and tree removals—Keith Mars, City Arborist, Development Services Department (1 hour)

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

Speakers

Lauren Ice

- c. Update on pavement sealant ban and consider a recommendation on an ordinance to modify the current ban to include additional high PAH products—Tom Ennis, Sustainability Officer, Watershed Protection Department (30 minutes)

A motion to support staff's recommendation to amend Chapters 6-6 of the City Code with conditions was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

- d. Elections of Environmental Commission Officers for the May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020 term (20 minutes)

Commissioner Maceo nominated Commissioner Guerrero, seconded by Commissioner Neely on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Guerrero abstained. Commissioner Gordon was off the dais. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

Commissioner Coyne nominated Commissioner Ramberg as secretary, seconded by Commissioner Neely on a 8-0 vote. Commissioner Gordon was off the dais. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

Commissioner Creel nominated Commissioner Coyne as Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Thompson on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Coyne abstained. Commissioner Gordon was off the dais. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

- e. Discuss and consider Environmental Commission subcommittee membership and subcommittee chair appointments (10 minutes)

A motion to postpone Item 7e was approved on Commissioner Creel's motion, Commissioner Thompson's second on a 8-0 vote. Commissioner Gordon was off the dais. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

- f. Update on Environmental Commission Annual Internal Review Report (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019)—Linda Guerrero, Environmental Commission Chair (5 minutes)

Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. **Name:** 211 S. Lamar Planned Unit Development, C814-2012-0160.01
Applicant: 16 Piggybank, Ltd. (Huston Street). Agent: Amanda Swor, Drenner Group, PC
Location: 211 South Lamar Boulevard Northbound and 1211 West Riverside Drive
Staff: Wendy Rhoades, Principal Planner, Planning and Zoning Department
Watershed: Lady Bird Lake, Water Supply Urban
Request: From PUD to PUD, to modify conditions of zoning
Staff Recommendation: Recommended with conditions
(30 minutes)

Speakers

Amanda Swor

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Gordon’s motion, Commissioner Thompson’s second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

A motion to recommend approval of the 211 S. Lamar PUD with conditions failed on Commissioner Guerrero’s motion, Commissioner Coyne’s second on a 5-4 vote. Those voting aye were: Commissioners Creel, Bedford, Guerrero, Coyne, and Ramberg. Those voting nay were Commissioners Thompson, Gordon, Neely, and, Maceo. Commissioner C. Smith was absent.

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 and, Mary Ann Neely
- 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. **Parks and Recreation Department’s Long Range Plan**
- b. **Red Bud Bridge**

c. **Discuss City tree plantings**

11.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 10:10 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).*