



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 with Social Distancing Modifications via remote video conferencing.

Commissioners in Attendance:

**Pam Thompson
Katie Coyne
Kevin Ramberg
Linda Guerrero
Perry Bedford
Audrey Barrett Bixler
Rick Brimer**

Commissioners Absent:

**Andrew Creel
Jennifer Bristol**

Staff in Attendance:

**Kaela Champlin
Chris Herrington
Liz Johnston
Jerry Rusthoven
Lisa Killander
Keith Mars**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first ten speakers who register to speak no later than noon the day before the meeting will be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.
None

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

- a. Approval of the May 5, 2021 Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
(5 minutes)

A motion to approve the Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of May 5, 2021 was approved on Commissioner Ramberg's motion, Commissioner Brimer's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Bristol and Creel were absent.

2. **STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. Austin Civilian Conservation Corps Program Overview—Daniel Culotta, Innovation Office
(20 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
- b. Update on Country Club West at Roy G. Guerrero Park—Janna Renfro, Engineer, Watershed Protection Department (20 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

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

- a. Discussion and recommendation of Austin Water Capital Improvement Projects located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone for approval to include in the 5-year Capital spending plan as required by Financial Policy #8—Aurora Pizano, Financial Manager II, Austin Water (15 minutes)
A motion to recommend approval of Austin Water’s CIPs located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone was approved on Commissioner Ramberg’s motion, Commissioner Guerrero’s second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Creel and Bristol were absent.
- b. Briefing of the Zilker Park Vision Plan Site Analysis and Existing Conditions Report, including the Guiding Principles—Gregory Montes, Program Manager, Parks and Recreation, Jonathan Ogren, Siglo Group, and Haley Wagoner, Siglo Group (20 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
- c. Approve proposed changes to the Environmental Commission Bylaws—Kaela Champlin, Environmental Commission Liaison, Watershed Protection Department (5 minutes)
Chair Guerrero made a motion to accept the proposed changes to the bylaws as written in the backup materials. The Environmental Commission unanimously supported the motion on a vote of 7-0.

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee – Pam Thompson, Kevin Ramberg, and Perry Bedford
- b. Urban Forestry Committee –Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, Richard Brimer
- c. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
- d. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen’s Advisory Committee – Kevin Ramberg
- e. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Linda Guerrero and Pam Thompson
- f. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
Chair Guerrero gave an update on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Brimer requested an agenda item on future locations of proposed sites for campsites for people experiencing homelessness.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 8:30 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. Please call **Kaela Champlin** at Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443 for additional information; 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).*