



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, September 1, 2021**

**The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, September 1, 2021 with Social Distancing Modifications via remote video conferencing.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

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

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Jennifer Bristol**

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Pamela Abee-Tauli  
Kaela Champlin  
Nikki Fowler  
Kelly Gagnon  
Liz Johnston  
Pam Kearfott  
Mike Kelly  
Jorge Morales  
Victor Nelms  
Darcy Nuffer  
Janna Renfro  
Mateo Scoggins  
Lee Shermann  
Lisa Storer  
Ramesh Swaminathan  
Annabell Ulary  
Diana Wang**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Commissioner Coyne called the meeting to order at 6:00 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. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION UPDATES**

- a. Update on Climate Equity Plan—Liz Johnston, Deputy Environmental Officer, Watershed Protection Department (**5 minutes**)  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**

- a. Approval of the August 18, 2021 Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes (**5 minutes**)  
**A motion to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021 Environmental Commission Meeting was approved on Commissioner Guerrero’s motion, Commissioner Ramberg’s second on a 7-0 vote. Bedford abstained. Commissioner Qureshi was off the dais. Commissioner Bristol was absent.**

### **3. BRIEFINGS**

- a. Update on Northwest Park Dam Maintenance and Modernization project—Annabell Ulary, Engineer B and Pam Kearfott, Supervising Engineer, Watershed Protection Department (**30 minutes**)  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**
- b. Update on Watershed Protection Department Equity Initiative—Nikki Fowler, Kelly Gagnon, Victor Nelms, Jorge Morales, Janna Renfro, and Ramesh Swaminathan, Watershed Protection Department (**30 minutes**)  
**Item conducted as posted. No action taken.**

**Commissioner Coyne called a recess at 8:12 P.M.**

**Commissioner called the meeting back to order at 8:23 PM**

### **4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- a. Update and request for recommendation of support for the Waterloo Greenway Creek Delta Project—Diana Wang, Project Manager, Watershed Protection Department (**30 minutes**)  
**A motion to recommend support for the Waterloo Greenway Creek Delta Project was approved on Commissioner Coyne’s motion, Commissioner Bedford’s second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioner Ramberg recused on Item 4a. Commissioner Bristol was absent.**

### **5. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Urban Forestry Committee –Pam Thompson, Richard Brimer, Audrey Barrett Bixler, and Linda Guerrero
- b. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne

- c. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen’s Advisory Committee – Kevin Ramberg
- d. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board –Linda Guerrero and Pam Thompson
- e. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero  
**Commissioner Guerrero gave an update on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board.**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Coyne adjourned the meeting at 9:10 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. 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).*