



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners attending in person:

**Perry Bedford
Haris Qureshi
Rachel Scott
Rick Brimer
Kevin Ramberg
Linda Guerrero
Jennifer Bristol**

Commissioner attending remotely:

**Audrey Barrett Bixler
Pam Thompson**

Commissioners absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

**Brian Block
Kaela Champlin
David Chapman
Denisha Cox
Sara Hartley
Rick Holloway
Liz Johnston
Suzanne Piper
Patricia Rossett
Margaret Stenz**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M.

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

**Paul DeFore
Daniel Llanes**

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

- a. Approval of the November 17, 2021 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)
The minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting of November 17, 2021 were approved on Vice Chair Ramberg’s motion, Commissioner Brimer’s second on a 9-0 vote.

2. STAFF UPDATES

- a. Update on amendments to City Code section 2.1 regarding rules for conducting remote/hybrid Board and Commission meetings—Kaela Champlin, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department (5 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

3. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Presentation on changes to improve issues with erosion-sedimentation controls in the Zilker/Barton Hills neighborhood—David Chapman, Environmental Compliance Supervisor, Development Services Department (30 minutes)
Speakers
Bruce Wiland

A motion to recommend that Development Service Department continue to improve erosion sedimentation, tree inspection, brief EC annually on inspection improvements, continue public outreach to communicate best process to, was approved on Vice Chair Ramberg’s motion, Chair Guerrero on a 8-1 vote. Commissioners Bedford, Qureshi, Scott, Barrett Bixler, Bristol, Ramberg, Guerrero, and Brimer voted aye. Commissioner Thompson voted nay.

- b. Briefing on the Sound Ordinance—David Chapman, Environmental Compliance Supervisor, and Brian Block, Program Manager, Development Services Department (30 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
- c. Make a recommendation regarding the creation, continuation, or termination and status of Lady Bird Lake concessions contained in the 2021 Annual Report of City of Austin/Parks and Recreation Department Managed Concessions on Town Lake—Margaret Stenz, Contract Management Specialist, Parks and Recreation Department (30 minutes)
Speakers

A motion to recommend the continuation of Lady Bird Lake concessions was approved on Commissioner Bristol’s motion, Commissioner Bedford’s second on a 9-0 vote.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- 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, Pam Thompson, and Rachel Scott
- e. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
- f. Other Updates: Update on Building Austin Tougher Strategic Initiative – Rachel Scott
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 9:22 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).*