



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
17, August, 2022**

The Environmental Commission convened in a regular meeting on 17, August, 2022 at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

**Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance: Perry Bedford, Jennifer Bristol, Melinda Schiera, Kevin Ramberg, and Haris Qureshi.
Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Ana Aguirre, Audrey Barrett Bixler, Rick Brimer, Colin Nickells, Rachel Scott, and Pam Thompson.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ramberg called the Environmental Commission Meeting to order at 6:0X P.M.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

1. Approval the minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting on August 3, 2022 (5 minutes)
The minutes of the August 3, 2022 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting were approved on Vice-Chair Bedford's motion, Chair Ramberg's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Qureshi and Commissioner Barrett Bixler were off the dais.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Update on ATX Walk Bike Roll to update Austin's sidewalk, urban trails, and bicycle plans. City Staff: Katie Wettick, Program Manager, Public Works (15 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. **Name:** 1609 Nueces St, Case No. 2022-018844 TP
Applicant: Ronald Rodriguez
Location: 1609 Nueces St.
Council District: District 9
Staff: Naomi Rotramel, City Arborist
Ordinance: Heritage Tree Ordinance - LDC 25-8-643- Land Commission Variance
Requests: The applicant is appealing the City Arborist's denial of application. The applicant is requesting the removal of a Heritage Tree with a single stem 30 inches in diameter or larger.

Staff Recommendation: The request does not meet the City Arborist approval criteria in LDC 25-8-624(A)(1)(2)(3). The variance is not recommended.

(30 minutes)

Speakers

Ronald Rodriguez

A motion to postpone the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Scott's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on a 8-3 vote. Those voting aye were Commissioners Qureshi, Scott, Barrett Bixler, Nickells, Bristol, Ramberg, Aguirre, and Bedford. Those voting nay were Commissioners Thompson, Schiera, and Brimer.

4. **Name:** Seton Medical Center Planned Unit Development Amendment No. 2, Case No. C814-92-0006.02

Applicant: Michele R. Lynch, Metcalfe Wolff Stuart & Williams

Location: 1201 W. 38th Street

Council District: District 10

Staff: Leslie Lilly, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department

Watershed: Shoal Creek, Urban Watershed, Desired Development Zone

Requests: To amend a Planned Unit Development (PUD)

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommended with conditions

(30 minutes)

Speakers

Michele Lynch

Chair Ramberg reconvened the meeting at 9:27 P.M.

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Ramberg's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on a 10-0 vote. Commissioner Scott abstained.

A motion to approve the Seton Medical Center PUD Amendment No. 2 with conditions was approved on Commissioner Bristol's motion, Commissioner Schiera's second on a 7-4 vote. Those voting aye were Commissioners Qureshi, Schiera, Nickells, Bristol, Ramberg, Aguirre, and Bedford. Those voting nay were Commissioners Scott, Thompson, Barrett Bixler, and Brimer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. Urban Forestry Committee – Richard Brimer (Committee Chair), Pam Thompson, Rachel Scott, and Colin Nickells
6. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Haris Qureshi (member) and Richard Brimer (alternate member)
7. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee – Jennifer Bristol
8. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Pam Thompson, Rachel Scott, Perry Bedford, and Haris Qureshi

9. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Ana Aguirre
Commissioner Aguirre gave an update on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ramberg adjourned the meeting at 9:58 P.M. without objection.

The minutes of the August 17, 2022 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting were approved on Commissioner Bristol’s motion, Commissioner Thompson’s second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Nickells abstained. Commissioner Scott was off the dais.