



***ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, August 16, 2023***

The ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

Chair Ramberg called the Environmental Commission Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Kevin Ramberg, Perry Bedford, Peter Einhorn, Colin Nickells, Melinda Schiera, David Sullivan

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Richard Brimer, Mariana Krueger

Commissioners Absent: Jennifer Bristol, Hanna Cofer, Haris Qureshi

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Carlos A Soto, speaking on the Community Advancement Network

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting on August 2nd, 2023 and Special Called Meeting on August 9th, 2023.
The minutes from the regular meeting on August 2nd, 2023 and the special called meeting on August 9th, 2023 were approved at the August 16th, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Bedford's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Kruger abstained. Commissioners Bristol, Cofer, and Qureshi were absent. Commissioner Brimer was off the dais.

STAFF BRIEFING

2. Presentation on Climate Ambassadors Overview, Projects, and Lessons Learned – Presented by Sydnee Landry, Office of Sustainability, and requested by Environmental Commissioners Richard Brimer and Haris Qureshi
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM

3. Discussion and action regarding appointments to the Urban Forestry Committee (two vacancies) and the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board (two vacancies).

The commission nominated Commissioner Krueger as a member of the Urban Forestry Committee.

The commission nominated Commissioners Bedford and Cofer, dependent on her interest, as members of the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. **Name:** Case No. C814-2008-0136.02 (North Austin Medical Center PUD Amendment #2)
Applicant: Michael Whellan, Armbrust & Brown
Location: 12221 N Mopac Expressway Service Road NB Austin, Texas 78758
Council District: District 7
Staff: Leslie Lilly, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department, Leslie.Lilly@austintexas.gov
Watershed: Walnut Creek Watershed, Suburban Watershed
Request: To amend a Planned Unit Development (PUD)
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommended with conditions
Speakers:
Leslie Lilly, Watershed Protection
April Brown, Armbrust & Brown
Michael Whellan, Armbrust & Brown
Matthew Zamaripa

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Ramberg's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Bristol, Cofer, and Qureshi were absent.

A motion to approve the amendment to the North Austin Medical Center Planned Unit Development with conditions passed on Commissioner Ramberg's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on a 7-1 vote. Commissioner Brimer voted against. Commissioners Bristol, Cofer, and Qureshi were absent.

5. **Name:** 2428 W Ben White Mixed Use Development, SP-2021-0278C
Applicant: Justin Cadieux, Quiddity
Location: 4215 S Lamar Blvd Service Rd, NB / 2428 W Ben White Blvd

Council District: District 5

Staff: Mike McDougal, Environmental Policy Program Manager, Development Services Department

Watershed: Williamson Creek Watershed / Suburban / Desired Development Zone and Barton Creek Watershed /Barton Springs Zone / Drinking Water Protection Zone

Request: Redevelopment Exception in the Barton Springs Zone, per 25-8-26

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the Redevelopment Exception for this project.

Speakers:

Mike McDougal, Development Services Department

Dave Anderson, Drenner Group (on behalf of the applicant)

Will McAshan, Quiddity

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Ramberg's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on a 8-0 vote. Commissioners Bristol, Cofer, and Qureshi were absent.

A motion to approve the redevelopment exception with passed on Commissioner Ramberg's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on a 8-0 vote. Commissioners Bristol, Cofer, and Qureshi were absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Urban Forestry Committee – Richard Brimer (Committee Chair), Colin Nickells, and Melinda Schiera
Commissioner Brimer provided an update on scheduling a meeting of the Committee.
7. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Haris Qureshi (member) and Richard Brimer (alternate member)
8. Report on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee – Jennifer Bristol
9. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Haris Qureshi and Kevin Ramberg
10. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – David Sullivan

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Chair Ramberg adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the September 6, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Brimer's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on a 9-0 vote.