



***ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, September 6, 2023***

The ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

Secretary Bristol called the Environmental Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Jennifer Bristol, Richard Brimer, Hanna Cofer, Peter Einhorn, Colin Nickells, Haris Qureshi, David Sullivan

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Melinda Schiera, Perry Bedford

Commissioners Absent: Kevin Ramberg, Mariana Krueger

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

**Diana Prechter, Zilker Park ecological remediation
Patricia Bobeck, Runoff and erosion in Zilker Park**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting on August 16th, 2023.

The minutes from the regular meeting on August 16th, 2023 were approved at the September 6th, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Brimer's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioners Ramberg and Krueger were absent.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

2. Approve a recommendation to vary from LDC 25-8-341 to allow cut from 4 to 8 feet on slopes greater than 15% and from LDC 25-8-342 to allow fill from 4 to 8 feet on slopes greater than 15% in the desired development zone at the Estancia Phase 11 Condos (SP-2021-0637C) – Mel Fuechec, Environmental Review Specialist Sr., Development Services Department

Speakers:

Mel Fuechec, Environmental Review, Development Services Department

**Mike McDougal, Environmental Review, Development Services Department
Kelechi Madubuko, Kimley Horn**

A motion to approve the recommendation to vary from LDC 25-8-341 and LDC 25-8-342 passed on Commissioner Bristol's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioners Ramberg and Krueger were absent.

3. Approve a recommendation to amend the Wildhorse Ranch Planned Unit Development (PUD) (Case No. C814-00-2063.10) – Leslie Lilly, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection

Speakers:

Leslie Lilly, Watershed Protection

Jeff Howard, McLean and Howard (Applicant)

Dan Hennessey, Transportation and Public Works

A motion to approve the recommendation to amend the Wildhorse Ranch Planned Unit Development passed on Commissioner Bristol's motion, Commissioner Einhorn's second on a 7-1 vote. Commissioner Bristol voted against. Commissioner Cofer abstained. Commissioners Ramberg and Krueger were absent.

4. Approve the creation of a working group to discuss native landscaping requirements – Requested by Commissioner Schiera

A motion to create a Native Landscaping working group comprised of Commissioners Bedford, Brimer, Schiera, and Sullivan, passed on Commissioner Schiera's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Ramberg and Krueger were absent. Commissioner Qureshi was off the dais.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. Urban Forestry Committee – Richard Brimer (Committee Chair), Mariana Krueger, Colin Nickells, and Melinda Schiera

Commissioner Brimer updated the commission on the Urban Forestry meeting schedule and agendas.

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 – Perry Bedford, Hanna Cofer, Haris Qureshi, and Kevin Ramberg
9. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – David Sullivan

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Schiera asked for an update on parking options at Zilker Park and PARD providing feedback at a future meeting.

Secretary Bristol adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the September 20th, 2023 meeting on Commissioner Bedford's motion, Commissioner Brimer's second on a 6 – 0 vote. Commissioners Krueger and Ramberg abstained. Commissioner Nickells was absent. Commissioners Einhorn and Sullivan was off the dais.