



***ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, May 1, 2024***

The ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Bedford called the Environmental Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance: Perry Bedford, Richard Brimer, Jennifer Bristol, Peter Einhorn, Haris Qureshi, and David Sullivan

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely: Hanna Cofer, Mariana Krueger, Colin Nickells, Melinda Schiera

Commissioners Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular Meeting on March 20, 2024 and the Special Called Meeting on March 28, 2024.

The minutes of the Environmental Commission Regular meeting on March 20, 2024 were approved on Commissioner Brimer's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioners Krueger, Qureshi, and Schiera were off the dais.

The minutes of the Environmental Commission Special Called meeting on March 28, 2024 were approved on Commissioner Brimer's motion, Commissioner Sullivan's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner's Bristol and Nickells abstained. Commissioners Qureshi and Schiera were off the dais

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2. **Name:** Bridle Ridge at Wildhorse Ranch, C8-2023-0259
Applicant: Kimley Horn (Kevin Burks)
Location: 10501 ½ Blue Bluff Rd, Austin, TX 78653

Council District: District 1

Staff: Pamela Abee-Taulli, Environmental Program Coordinator, Development Services Department

Applicant request: Request to vary from a) 25-8-341 to allow cut over four (4) feet, to 15 feet and b) 25-8-342 to allow fill over four (4) feet, to 15 feet.

Staff recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the variances with conditions

Speakers:

Pamela Abee-Taulli

Kevin Burks

Liz Johnston

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Bedford's motion, Commissioner Krueger's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Cofer was off the dais.

A motion to approve the requested variances with conditions was approved on Commissioner Bristol's motion, Commissioner Bedford's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Cofer was off the dais.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

3. Approve a recommendation on an ordinance amending City Code Title 25 related to development regulations applicable to residential re-subdivisions and multi-family residential site development of five to sixteen units – Brent Lloyd, Development Officer, Development Services Department

Speakers:

Brent Lloyd

Liz Johnston

Matt Hollon

Vice Chair Bedford called a recess at 8:07.

Vice Chair Bedford reconvened the meeting at 8:15.

Commissioner Bristol made a motion to recommend the Infill Plats & Site Plan Lite, Part 2 code changes with recommendations, seconded by Commissioner Krueger.

An amendment to remove recommendations on density and equity in the motion failed on Commissioner Krueger's motion, Commissioner Nickells' second, on a 5-4 vote. Commissioners Brimer, Einhorn, Krueger, Nickells, and Schiera voted in favor. Commissioners Bedford, Bristol, Qureshi, and Sullivan voted against. Commissioner Cofer was off the dais.

The original motion to approve a recommendation on the Infill Plats & Site Plan Lite, Part 2 code changes with recommendations was approved on Commissioner Bristol's motion, Commissioner Krueger's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioner Sullivan abstained. Commissioner Cofer was off the dais.

4. Election of Environmental Commission Officers for the May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025 term.

This item was heard before agenda item 2. A motion to nominate Commissioner Bristol as secretary was approved on Vice-Chair Bedford's motion on a 7-0 vote. A motion to nominate Commissioner Cofer as vice-chair was approved on Secretary Bristol's motion on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Brimer abstained. A motion to nominate Vice Chair Bedford as chair was approved on Secretary Bristol's motion on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Qureshi and Schiera were off the dais.

5. Approve a recommendation supporting the City Council's code resolutions for Home 2 (allowing 2,000 sq ft lots sizes for single-family), reduced compatibility standards (from 540 ft to 75 ft) to allow more housing along major roads, and higher density housing near future light rail lines (ETODs), plus site development standards for EV charging – Presented by David Sullivan, Environmental Commission member
A motion to withdraw this item failed on Commissioner Sullivan's, Commissioner Nickells's second, on a 3-6 vote. Commissioners Sullivan, Brimer, and Nickells voted in favor. Commissioners Bedford, Bristol, Einhorn, Krueger, Qureshi, and Schiera voted against. Commissioner Cofer was off the dais.

A motion to recommend City Council's code resolutions for Home 2 (allowing 2,000 sq ft lots sizes for single-family), reduced compatibility standards (from 540 ft to 75 ft) to allow more housing along major roads, higher density housing near future light rail lines (ETODs), and site development standards for EV charging was approved on Commissioner Sullivan's motion, Commissioner Einhorn's second on a 8-1 vote. Commissioner Brimer voted against. Commissioner Cofer was off the dais.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

6. Update from the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board (SCWAB) on their recommendations to the City Council on the Draft Combining District & Density Bonus Plan – David Sullivan
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
7. Update from the Urban Forestry Committee on a recommendation on improving Austin's Tree Canopy at the next Urban Forestry meeting on June 28th – Richard Brimer
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Einhorn asked if staff can help present the secretary's draft motions in future meetings so commissioners can read along as she types. Liz Johnston said staff would look into it.

Commissioner Krueger thanked Katie Coyne for her service to the city.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Bedford adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M.

The minutes were approved at the May 15, 2024 meeting on Commissioner __'s motion, Commissioner __'s second on a -0 vote. Commissioner __ was absent. Commissioner ____ abstained.