ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES October 7, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

Members of the Environmental Advisory Commission met on the above date at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Public Works Facility. Mr. Wayne Caldwell, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. The following attended the meeting:

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Mr. Wayne Caldwell	Mr. Scott Anderson
Mr. Jay Holley	Mr. Hugh Cox
Mr. Owen Burney	Mr. Tim Kelley

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Marion Blackburn, City Council Member Ms. Lisa Kirby, City of Greenville Mr. Wes Anderson, City of Greenville Ms. Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Keep Greenville Beautiful Report was removed from the agenda. Environmental Awareness Award – Revise Process was also removed from the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2010 MINUTES

The spelling was corrected in the "Election of Vice-Chairperson" from "acclimation" to "acclamation." A motion was made by Mr. Jay Holley to accept the minutes as amended and was seconded by Mr. Tim Kelley. The motion passed unanimously.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Announcements

- Mr. Caldwell reported the Green Building Solar Tour will be held on Saturday, October 9, 2010 from 10am – 3pm with the kickoff beginning at Pitt Community College. More information can be found at www.ncgreentour.com
- Mr. Caldwell commented that the NC Building Code Council voted against changing codes on new home construction. This could cost homeowners up to 30% in energy savings over the lifetime of the home.
- Mr. Caldwell stated that Charlotte, NC has been working on and recently passed a tree ordinance for their city. Mr. Caldwell asked Mr. Wes Anderson if it would be feasible to look at the current tree ordinance for the City of Greenville and compare it to Charlotte. Mr. Scott Anderson agreed to review the two ordinances and bring the information back to EAC in November.

B. Keep Greenville Beautiful Report

This item will be held over to the November 4, 2010 meeting.

C. FROGGS Report

Ms. Melissa Lockamy gave an update on the FROGGS organization. She reported the Greenway Fun Day was held in September 2010 and a potluck dinner is tentatively scheduled for January 22, 2011. Ms. Lockamy stated the organization has begun filling the ten seats on the board since the departure of Jill Twark with active members and have better defined the duties of those board members. These board members continue to meet with City of Greenville officials to work on projects such as the Greenway Master Plan, South Tar River Greenway, and the Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan. FROGGS is interested in partnering with the City of Greenville to raise funds for a possible feasibility study to coordinate connections within greenways.

Mr. Kelley asked if recycling receptacles would be added along the greenway trails. Discussion ensued regarding the funds available for and maintenance of receptacles. Ms. Blackburn volunteered to send a letter to Gary Fenton, Director of Recreation and Parks to request this topic be addressed.

D. Redevelopment Commission Projects and Programs

Mr. Owen Burney presented the group with an email from Merrill Flood with a sample listing of projects being considered by Community Development within the redevelopment area. Community Development will be giving a presentation to EAC in December 2010 on the various projects.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Town Creek Contamination Update

Mr. Holley passed out an aerial map and photos of Town Creek where pollution has been an ongoing issue. Mr. Holley reported that approximately twenty years ago, Town Creek was contaminated with pollutants that became a source of concern for NCDENR. The aerial map gives indication of 4 possible sources of pollutants (underground storage tanks) and other additional contamination sites that were suspected. Thirty wells were installed to monitor the contamination; however, the wells were eventually abandoned and turned over to the Federal Trust Fund program with DENR in Raleigh. The Federal Trust Fund funded a small clean up system which used 4 wells until funding and interest in the program was exhausted in 1996.

From 1996 to 2005, no efforts were made to attempt to monitor or clean up the contamination in Town Creek. In 2005, questions were raised why efforts were not being made to clean up the area. A link to the direct cause of the contamination was never found, therefore no responsible party could be held accountable for the damage. Another factor in the lack of concern is the fact that there is not a direct drinking water risk.

Mr. Holley contacted an administrator with the Federal Trust Fund program in Raleigh. Mr. Holley was informed by this administrator that a sample was taken in 2008. Although contamination was found, the State would still like to close the site down. The Raleigh DENR office will sample the area every couple of years, but no other efforts will be made in the area beyond monitoring.

Mr. Caldwell suggested EAC send a request to City Council asking them to initiate a letter to NCDENR Division of Waste Management appealing to them to further investigate the contamination and clean up of Town Creek. A motion was made by Mr. Hugh Cox. Mr. Owen Burney seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Holley and Mr. Caldwell will collaborate on the letter to City Council.

B. NPDES Phase II MS4 Renewal Update

Ms. Kirby presented each member with Section 1 (Storm Sewer System Information) and Section 2 (Receiving Streams) of the NPDES Phase II MS4 permit. Ms. Kirby also reported Greens Mill Run and Swift Creek are considered impaired and all waters within the State are on the 303D list for mercury. Ms. Kirby thanked Mr. Holley and Mr. Caldwell for providing comments on Section 7 (Stormwater Management Program Plan) and asked for any further comments from the group are forwarded to her as soon as possible.

C. Environmental Awareness Award – Revise Process

This item will be held over to the November 4, 2010 meeting.

D. GCPP Update

Mr. Caldwell reported that Dr. Ed Davis, as a member of the Asthma Coalition, has done a lot of work with the State in regards to no idling zone programs for schools. Two no idling signs per school could be installed to establish no idling zones. GCPP will be discussing the process in further detail at their October 12, 2010 meeting.

E. EECBG Update

Mr. Wes Anderson stated there was no confirmation from Greenville Utilities for receipt of LED street lights. Two (2) houses are applying to build to the Enhanced E-300 standards. The developers initially interested in installing LED street lights in subdivisions are reconsidering their participation in the program.

F. Recycling Committee Update

Mr. Caldwell reported the Recycling Committee has met and brainstormed on ideas to increase recycling rates for the City of Greenville. The group's intent is to increase recycling from 10% to 20%.

7. OTHER– FYI

- A. Recycling Report
- **B. UST Report**

- **8. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS –** The following items are proposed for the November 4, 2010 meeting:
 - A. City Council Goals & Objectives
 - **B.** GUC Projects & Programs
 - C. Environmental Awareness Award Revise Process
 - D. NPDES Phase II MS4 Renewal Update
 - E. GCPP Update
 - F. EECBG Update
 - G. Keep Greenville Beautiful Update
 - H. City of Greenville Tree Ordinance
 - I. Town Creek Update
- **9.** Adjournment There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.