

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES
March 1, 2012

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. Jay Holley, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. The following attended the meeting:

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Mr. Jay Holley

Mr. Owen Burney

Ms. Laura Williamson

Mr. Wayne Caldwell

Mr. Scott Anderson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Kinsey Holton, City of Greenville

Ms. Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville

Mr. Harry Stubbs, FROGGS

Mr. Michael Abramowitz, Daily Reflector

3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

A discussion regarding the environment as a goal for City Council was added to the agenda. An update on the Light Standards Stakeholders Group was also added. A motion was made by Laura Williamson to amend the agenda. A second was made by Wayne Caldwell. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2, 2012 MINUTES

A motion was made by Scott Anderson to approve the February 2, 2012 minutes as presented. A second was made by Laura Williamson and the motion passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Announcements

- Mr. Holley announced that Wayne Caldwell's term would be expiring as of April 2012. Mr. Holton informed the group that the City Clerk's office stated the Chairperson of the Commission could determine if Mr. Caldwell would leave his position with the March or April meeting. Mr. Holley, with agreement from the members present, agreed it would be beneficial to have Mr. Caldwell attend the April EAC meeting.

Ms. Williamson asked what the process was for filling vacant positions on the commission. Mr. Holton responded the City Clerk's office would advertise in the Daily Reflector for the positions and applicants would fill out a talent bank application. At that time, recommendations would be made to City Council and

approval of appointments made.

Ms. Williamson then asked if a quorum would be constituted by active members or by the total of members that serve on the commission. Mr. Holton will research the matter and report the findings by email to EAC members.

B. FROGGS Update

Mr. Harry Stubbs was present to update EAC on FROGGS activities. Mr. Stubbs reported on the following items:

1. A Citizens' Forum was held on Saturday, October 11, 2011 at 11:00am at the Town Commons in Greenville. This forum was attended by all Mayoral candidates and At-Large City Council candidates.
2. Funds were collected and passed through the City of Greenville's Recreation and Parks Department for five (5) benches to be placed along the greenway. The benches will be brass plated with memorial or in honor of recognition for those donating funds if applicable.
3. A "friend-raiser" was held at Bradford Creek Clubhouse on January 28, 2012. Seventy-five (75) renewing members and guests were in attendance.
4. South Tar River Greenway Phase III work is under way and FROGGS is pleased with the progress.
5. A new FROGGS logo has been developed and has been transferred to mugs, stickers, and t-shirts.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. EAC Grant Program – Deadline and Applications

Ms. Williamson made the changes to the grant application package and fact sheet as determined by the previous meeting. Ms. Williamson also contacted all the eligible schools and informed them of the change to include all school associated groups. The 4-H group from Wahl-Coates indicated their interest; however, no response has been received. Ms. Williamson volunteered to make contact with Wahl-Coates and the Eppes-Elmhurst group to solicit applications.

B. Brochure for Plastic Waste – Brainstorming Ideas

Ms. Williamson prepared a beginning document for brainstorming ideas for the plastic brochure. Ms. Williamson stated the main goal should be to determine what goals we are attempting to achieve in our area and what hot points would get people to pay attention to the need. Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Holley also suggested expanding the aspect of money to include statistics that would personalize the results of recycling. Ms. Williamson commented that along with statistics, visuals would be a stimulus for the brochure.

Mr. Holley then focused on the "things to help reduce the impact of plastics." Discussion revolved around the choices available as alternatives to plastics. The ban of plastics was determined as a non-option; however, the utility and role of plastics should be emphasized. Mr. Holley also stated a key point should be the recycling of plastics within the City. Mr. Caldwell also commented a key point should be to stress the use #1 & #2

plastics as these are recyclable. Mr. Holley inquired as to what the final layout of the brochure should reflect. Ms. Williamson suggested a tri-fold brochure with key points, charts, visuals, and facts.

Ms. Williamson volunteered to put together an outline of topics and will forward the points by email to the group for additional input. The points will be brought back to the April EAC meeting for further discussion.

C. GTV – PSA April, May, June

Mr. Holton passed out a calendar with previous PSA topics and suggestions for current topics. He also asked for more topics. Topics offered for suggestion were batteries, CFL recycling, hotels/motels, xeriscape, and lighting standards.

Mr. Holton also informed the group of the decision by the Steve Hawley that the Rebuilding Together public service announcement suggested for the 5-minute presentation could not be used as it was not a service directly offered by the City and may be interpreted as unfair advertising.

D. Compact Fluorescent Recycling Update

Mr. Holton contacted Lowe's and they accepted our suggestion to solicit them for recycling of compact fluorescent lighting. Mr. Holton also suggested adding links to the City of Greenville's recycling page to NCDENR's website which lists options for recycling and other links as deemed appropriate.

E. GCPP Update

Mr. Holton attended the GCPP meeting and stated the group was attempting to determine the alliance task work. The lack of attendance and lapsed membership was also addressed. Ms. Williamson commented GCPP was initially organized to further discussion about climate and energy issues and felt the group had met their intended purpose. Ms. Williamson asked if the group should be dissolved and current members of GCPP encouraged to apply for vacant positions on EAC. Mr. Holley asked to table the dialogue to the April EAC meeting so that Mr. Cox, as chairperson for GCPP, could be present for further discussion.

F. EECBG Update

Mr. Holton reported that energy monitoring was continuing and is anticipated through June 2012.

8. OTHER– FYI

A. Recycling Report

B. UST Report

C. Lighting Standards Stakeholders Group

Ms. Williamson reported two groups met on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 with EAC having a representative in both groups. The first group to meet was the Street Lighting group. This group was established to look at intensity of lighting on City streets and possibly setting a standard for lighting policies within the City.

The second group was a Parking Lot Lighting group. This group will look at the

possibility of setting standards of lighting in private parking lots within the City. A major concern of the group was the private ownership of the parking lots and the aspect of using a grandfathering or retroactive policy for existing lighting.

D. Environment as a goal for City Council

Mr. Holley informed the group that Councilmember Blackburn asked EAC to lobby to increase the environment from a value to a goal for City Council consideration. Mr. Caldwell asked how this objective could best be achieved and it was determined that Mr. Holley would contact Councilmember Blackburn to ascertain what further actions should be taken by EAC.

9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – The following items are proposed for the April 5, 2012 meeting:

- A. EAC Grant Program – Distribute applications**
- B. GCPP – Discussion of Future**
- C. Plastic Brochure – Design**
- D. Environment as a Goal for City Council**
- E. GCPP Update**
- F. EECBG Update**
- G. Light Standards Stakeholders Groups Update**

10. Adjournment –There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.