

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES
February 6, 2014

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

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS:

Mr. Scott Anderson
Dr. Robert Chin
Dr. David Kimmel

Mr. Owen Burney
Mr. Hugh Cox

OTHERS PRESENT:

Council Member Rick Smiley
Harry Stubbs, FROGGS
Wendy Klein, Greenville Citizen
Kinsey Holton, City of Greenville
Amanda Braddy, City of Greenville

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda. Mr. Burney made a motion to proceed with the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kimmel and passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2, 2014 MINUTES

Dr. Chin noted a correction was needed to amend Section 2 of New Business to read "There were 'no' additions or deletions to the agenda." A motion was made by Dr. Chin to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kimmel and passed unanimously.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Kimmel presented the Environmental Survey for review. Dr. Kimmel asked EAC members to review and make any suggestion for changes before being presented to the community.
- Mr. Anderson informed the group of the Tar River Study public meeting that will be held on Saturday, March 15th at 10:00am at the Willis Building.
- Mr. Anderson informed the group of the Town Creek Culvert public meeting that was held on Tuesday, February 4th at Sheppard Library.
- Mr. Anderson announced the City has selected firms for the Watershed Master Planning. Mr. Holton stated three firms have been selected to complete the remainder of the watershed master planning and associated inventory. The pilot watershed, which consisted of the Meetinghouse Branch watershed, has been completed and also standard operating procedures were established for development of other watershed master plans. The remainder of the watershed master planning will complete a City-wide inventory and evaluate what conditions exist throughout the City to provide a comprehensive set of watershed master plans to be developed for the entire City.
- Mr. Anderson reported on the parking deck and stated all public input and stakeholders meetings

were complete and the project is being evaluated by the Redevelopment Commission.

- Council Member Smiley announced there would be a public meeting held on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at Sheppard Library from 4:00pm – 7:00pm for the Dickinson Avenue Improvement Project.
- Mr. Holton informed the group that NC Legislation is working to establish that gravel will no longer be considered an impervious surface. The City of Greenville is working with the NC League of Municipalities to further establish temporary rules as there are various types of gravel that would determine levels of impervious surfaces. Mr. Holton will continue monitoring the legislation and rulings and report additional findings to EAC when available.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Stubbs informed the group that the Sierra Club is considering a showing of a Michael Moore movie on fracking in March. Mr. Stubbs will forward the information to EAC when more details become available.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. FROGGS Update

Mr. Stubbs was present to give an update of past and current projects and events involving FROGGS. These included:

- Two informational signs will be installed along the greenway. The first sign will be located at Town Commons and addresses Hurricane Floyd. Funding for the sign is being provided by WNCT. The second sign addresses Spanish moss and will be located to the right of the off leash dog park. The funding for this sign is from various benefactors in the City of Greenville community.
- FROGGS has a sign designed for fossils on Greens Mill Run and is currently searching for funding for this signage.
- Funding has been received and a human/canine water fountain purchased for installation at the dog park.
- FROGGS was one of four sponsors for the candidates' forum held at the Peasant Pub on October 15, 2013.
- FROGGS sponsored the "Who is on our Greenways" tour for children on Saturday, October 26, 2013. Snacks and S'mores were provided at Green Springs Park.
- A wildflower garden project is being developed by Dr. Vince Bellis and ECU students that will be planted to the left of the dog park. A picnic area is also being discussed.
- FROGGS will be having a "Friend" Raiser on Saturday, April 5, 2014 at Bradford Creek Country Club.

B. 2013-2014 EAC Grant Update

Mr. Holton reported that Dr. Bean, grant coordinator with J.H. Rose, stated the three modules of curriculum (what is the hydrologic cycle, what is impervious area/cover, and what are the impacts on stormwater runoff) were covered with the Science club in the previous semester and will be represented to students in the new semester. The club will then begin to work on a stormwater

management plan and select a site for a possible stormwater BMP facility. A weather station has been purchased and the students are waiting on approval for an installation site.

C. 2014 Goals Implementation

Mr. Holton presented those present with a copy of the established 2014 EAC Goals. Implementation on each goal was discussed as follows:

1. Identify and deploy five ways in which to engage citizens in environmental sustainability with funding that supports an environmental sustainability project.
 - a. Environmental Survey being developed by Dr. Kimmel was presented as one option
 - b. Greenfest – opportunity to engage citizens with environmental concerns
 - c. Tar River Study – opportunity to have local residents to establish a research nutrient input project
 - d. Watershed Inventory – citizen feedback

2. Increase deliberate and intentional engagement with Council and other commissions.

Mr. Anderson suggested members have personal interaction with other board members or Council members. Dr. Kimmel further suggested having a list provided that detailed members of other commissions and the commissions projects for review.

Council Member Smiley suggested having joint commission meetings.

3. Identify and suggest five ways to reduce volume of our waste.
 - a. Reduce consumption
 - b. Use fees for waste
 - c. Recycling cart program
 - d. “To landfill” stickers

4. Seek ways to preserve our “liquid gold” (water).

Mr. Holton suggested working with Greenville Utilities to establish a baseline of what is currently being done to maintain water consumption.

Mr. Burney suggested having the City’s facilities reviewed and replacing all water fixtures with low-flow fixtures if applicable.

5. Incorporate service learning students from ECU in the pursuit of one 2014 EAC goal.

Dr. Chin suggested having students trained to inspect City facilities and determine if fixtures are low-flow.

6. Distribute the plastics brochure.

Mr. Anderson identified Greenfest as an opportunity to distribute the plastics brochure.

7. Develop an inventory of the City’s Public Works’ environmental sustainability accomplishments/achievements.

Dr. Chin has a student working with the City on the inventory. The information will be presented to EAC when completed.

8. Develop a culture of measuring and disseminating the results of EAC’s efforts.

It was noted that information regarding EAC could be found on the City's website and additional information was stored on the Wikispace established by Mr. Cox.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. GCPP Discussion

This topic was tabled to the March 6, 2014 meeting.

B. River Park North UST

Mr. Holton reported he had received the documentation on River Park North and realized the Final Site Assessment needs to be completed. Mr. Holton will be contacting the City Engineer, Recreation and Parks Department, and the City Attorney to determine what further action to pursue to close out this project.

8. OTHER– FYI

A. Recycling Report

Mr. Holton noted the correction of the graph as previously requested. Dr. Chin asked if milestones of recycling initiatives were identified in recording numbers in the graph as well. Mr. Holton will confirm with the Recycling Coordinator and report back.

B. UST Report

9. PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS – The following items are proposed for the March 6, 2014 meeting:

A. 2014 Goals Implementation

B. 2014 EAC Grant – Discuss new grant and obtain update on current grant

C. Recycling Initiatives Update

D. GCPP

E. River Park North UST/AST Update

10. Adjournment –There being no further business to discuss, Dr. Chin made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Burney and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.