MINUTES

Environmental Commission Thursday, September 24, 2009 7:00 PM Council Chambers

Environmental Commissioners		Present
Steve Bean (Chair)		×
Rita Loch Caruso		×
Anya Dale		×
John German		
Chris Graham (Vice-Chair)		
Carsten Hohnke	City Council	×
John Koupal		
Gwen Nystuen	Park Advisory Commission	✓
David Stead		×
Margie Teall	City Council	✓
David Wright	Energy Commission	×
Valerie Strassberg		
Kirk Westphal	Planning Advisory Commission	×
Staff		
Matthew Naud	Environmental Coordinator	✓

- A) Call to Order
- B) Roll Call of Members Quorum
- C) Amendments and Approval of the Agenda
- D) Special Presentations/Announcements
 - Transition Town Ann Arbor Nathan Ayers Presentation on the Transition Ann Arbor organization focusing on local opportunities to mitigate the effects of peak oil, climate change, and economic instability. Key facets of the program include: unleashing the collective genius of the community, engaging in a playful process, and relocalization. Current projects include the "Great Reskilling", local events to share skills.
- E) Public Commentary
- F) Reading and Approval of Minutes
- \mathbf{G}) Unfinished Business as Listed on the Agenda
- H) Commission Proposed Business
 - Commission Elections Commissioner Nystuen nominated Commissioner Bean for Chair, Councilmember Hohnke seconded – on a voice vote unanimously approved. After discussion of the vice chair position, Commissioner Westphal nominated Commissioner Dale as Vice-Chair, seconded by Commissioner Stead – on a voice vote unanimously approved.
 - 2) Revisions to Chapter 63 Stormwater controls on one and two family parcels – presentation by Jerry Hancock, Systems Planning – Jerry Hancock presented the recommendations to control stormwater from single and twofamily parcels. This initiative grew out of a recommendation from the Mallets Creek Coordinating Committee and is based on a model used in Portland. The proposed approach regulates increases in impervious area above a 200sf

threshold. Development under this threshold is not required to obtain a building permit. Residential credits available under the stormwater utility still apply. Approximately 40% of city parcels are zoned 1 or 2 family and the runoff from these parcels accounts for approximately 60 % of the stormwater runoff. The Environmental Commission resolution recommending that City Council adopt the proposed strategy to mitigate stormwater from one and two family parcels was put forward by Commissioner Stead and seconded by Commissioner Nystuen. After discussion, the resolution was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

- I) Staff Proposed Business
 - Review of 2009 State of Our Environment Report to City Council Matthew Naud reviewed the 2009 summary of the City State of Our Environment report – a 4 page document that will be forwarded to City Council and used for public education at Green Fair and Earth Day among other events. Commissioner Loch-Caruso noted that drinking water quality metrics on dioxane and flood protection are absent. The Commission discussed the opportunity to develop and add indicators at any time when appropriate data are available and welcomed any input form Commissioner Loch-Caruso and the Water Committee.
- J) Report of the Administrator and Council
 - Items from the Environment Staff Mr. Naud summarized several projects underway including an energy efficiency financing district working with Andrew Brix and others at the city and county. It was suggested that a presentation be made to the Commission in the near future.
- \mathbf{K}) Items from the Park Advisory, Energy, and Planning Commission Representatives
 - 1) Commissioner Nystuen noted that Scott Rosencrans is the new Chari of the Park Advisory Commission. Eli Cooper recently made a presenta6tion to PAC on the Fuller Road Station.
 - Commissioner Wright (Energy Commission) noted that there is a solar home tour underway and contacts are available on the Great Lakes Renewable Energy website.
 - 3) Commissioner Westphal had nothing to add regarding the Planning Commission.
- L) Reports of the Chair and Committees
 - 1) Chair nothing
 - 2) Natural Features Committee nothing
 - Solid Waste Committee Commissioner Stead noted that there will be a presentation to the Environmental Commission on single stream recycling and MRF expansion to accommodate the expanded recycling stream.
 - 4) State of Our Environment Report Committee discussed above
 - 5) Sustainable Community Commissioner Bean discussed his interest in expanding the city Goals to include broader sustainability issues. The committee is also evaluating next steps in developing an environmental action plan.
 - 6) Transportation Committee Commissioner Dale noted the committee interest in looking into ways to improve winter road maintenance and mentioned work by the HRWC chloride committee.
 - 7) Water Committee nothing
- M) Public Commentary none
- N) Meeting evaluation/Adjournment