



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes - Final

Environmental Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Thursday, July 23, 2020

7:00 PM

This meeting will be broadcast live on
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WORKING SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:01

ROLL CALL

Present: 10 - Christopher L. Graham, Robert Needham, Karie Slavik,
Mike Appel, Anne Bannister, John Callewaert, Stephen C
Brown, Jonathan Overpeck, Rita Mitchell, and Shannan
Gibb-Randall

Absent: 3 - Allison Skinner, Chip Smith, and John Mirsky

WELCOME YOUTH COMMISSIONER GABBIE BUENDIA

*Chair Steve Brown welcomed Commissioner Gabbie Buendia. She is an
environmental educator with the Sierra Club.*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as presented

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from June 25, 2020

Approved as presented

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

no public comments

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

REVIEW OF TENTATIVE ACTION POINTS FROM LAST MEETING:

Engage with Ordinance Review Committee of the Planning Commission, to identify ordinance changes required to advance A2zero goals. (Missy Stults and Commissioner Shannon Gibb-Randall)

SEAS Capstone proposals (Missy Stults & Commissioner Jonathan Overpeck) to recruit a Working Group by July 15

Suggest Metrics for ecological improvement related to IPM and Natural Features improvements. Will not move quickly, but long-term trends need to be consistently measured over time. (Commissioner Chris Graham, Commissioner Rita Mitchell, Commissioner Karie Slavik)

Going forward, OSI staff will submit asks to Working Groups for discussion and refinement, then proceed to full Commission for discussion (Missy Stults, Commissioner Stephen Brown, Commissioner Robert Needham, Commissioner Chris Graham, Commissioner Karie Slavik)

Consolidate working group SMART goals by July 20 (Commissioner Stephen Brown, Commissioner Robert Needham, Commissioner Chris Graham, Commissioner Karie Slavik) and engage with OSI before July 23 Work Session (Chair Stephen Brown)

Chair Steve Brown will speak to Missy Stults about processes.

Move discussion on Capstone to the September meeting

Commissioner Rita Mitchell announced second work for pollinators will be rolled into the Natural features group announced

Commissioner Karie Slavik said we will move forward with certification class to remove turf grass and consolidate all goals with Natural Features Group

Chair Steve Brown said performance goals and metrics need to be discussed with City Administration and will be added to our August meeting.

Commissioner Brown will speak to Missy Stults about processes.

REVISED GOALS IN RESPONSE TO A2ZERO

The working groups will announce and discuss their revised goals, in light of Missy's suggestions last month

One Commissioner will be assigned to move each goal such as C & D.

The Commission would like a more refined document for City Staff by Sept 2020

In October or December we would like to vote on a draft ordinance to pass on to Council

Commissioner Shannan Gibb-Randall would like to move the document to Oct instead of Sept. 2020

Solid Waste Working group shared minutes with action points and commissioners who will take charge with moving the document

Water, Natural Features, and Pollinators working group also shared their minutes on the same document

Commissioner Steve Brown will give everyone editing rights on the Google doc.

Commissioner Robert Needham also presented the water working group minutes to the Commissioners.

Goals for green streets will be brought up to the entire Natural Features group in August.

Commission can send an email to Hillary Hanzel in Parks suggesting educational signs at Argo livery

Chair Steve Brown will share documents with Commissioner Robert Needham on micro plastics

Commissioner Karie Slavik said the pollinator working group is working with City staff on IMP and creating a training for pesticides and turf grass.

Chair Steve Brown wanted the group to create SMART Goals for the

group

Commissioner Mike Appel suggested a SEAS Capstone project to have ready by Sept.

Commissioner Jonathan Overpeck said they should discuss with faculty and client then ready be ready to present to students. Commissioners are asked to submit a few sentences to a paragraph to him then he will call and ask a few questions to get a 10,000 foot view of the project.

Some folks at SEAS would work with faculty to shop the projects around.

Commissioner Jonathan Overpeck wants Commissioners to send ideas by September 1st

Commissioner Rita Mitchell suggested a discussion with Jen Lawson to find out what assistance is needed.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, OTHER COMMISSIONS, COUNCIL, AND CHAIR

Commissioner Mike Appel reported no parks meeting in July

Council Member Anne Bannister remarked in Council Report a deal was reached agreement with Recycle Ann Arbor.

Chair Steve Brown announced commissioners must attend a majority of meetings and once a Commissioner misses three meetings the commissioner will be on notice. On the 3rd offense Chair Steve Brown will have a meeting with the commissioner in regards to attendance.

The Vice Chair is missing and electing a Vice Chair will be on the August Agenda

REPORTS FROM STAFF

The City's Solid Waste & Sustainability & Innovations Department are working on a Circularity abstract for a Sustainability Magazine.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: August 27, 2020

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Public Comment from Ron Carnell on alternatives for poly styrene and the abundance of the materials in take out restaurants. Ron wanted to know another way to get restaurants to change their behaviors without an ordinance. He would like to work with Council Member Bannister in regards.

SUMMARIZED ACTION ITEMS

Same Action Items plus 2 more

Commissioners will send ideas for SEAS Capstone projects roughly one paragraph by September 1, 2020 to Commissioner Jonathan Overpeck.

Commissioners will share a draft on C & D Ordinance before next meeting.

Chair Steve Brown will make SMART Goals with Jen Lawson

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Shannan Gibb-Randall and Commissioner Chris Graham at 8:50pm

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