



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes

Environmental Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/
Calendar.aspx](http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

Thursday, February 28, 2019

7:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second
floor, City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Needham called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - Christopher L. Graham, Susan Hutton, Allison Skinner, Robert Needham, Chip Smith, Karie Slavik, Shannan Gibb-Randall, Anne Bannister, John Callewaert, Mike Appel, and John Mirsky

Absent: 1 - Stephen C Brown

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Hutton, seconded by Councilmember Smith, that the agenda be Approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[19-0228](#) Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of 8-23-18

Attachments: Env Commission revised minutes 8-23-18.pdf

A motion was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Mirsky, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

[19-0231](#) Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of 12-6-18

Attachments: meeting minutes - Environmental Commission 12-6-18 revised.pdf

A motion was made by Mirsky, seconded by Vice Chair Skinner, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the

City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

19-0232 Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of 1-24-19

Attachments: meeting minutes for 1-24-19 Environmental Commission.pdf

A motion was made by Slavik, seconded by Hutton, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There was no public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

19-0455 2019 Priorities and Subcommittees of the Environmental Commission

Attachments: 2019 Priorities and Subcommittees of the Environmental Commission.pdf

Commissioners developed, discussed, and voted on project ideas in following categories: solid waste; natural features; water issues; climate action and clean air; and miscellaneous. Through a consensus process, Commission decided to develop Solid Waste, Natural Features, and Water Subcommittees which will meet at least once before the next Commission meeting to propose their workplans including timelines and metrics. Chair Needham will work with staff to develop a Commission workplan for review and adoption at the next meeting, which will be forwarded onto Council as per the Commission bylaws. [See attached document for the list of project ideas and voting results. The video for this section runs between 2:40 and 1:16:30.]

19-0301 An Ordinance to Amend Title VI (Food and Health) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor by Adding a new Chapter 73 [Two Stroke Engines]

Attachments: Ordinance Amendment Draft #2 for CM Review.pdf 2.pdf

Commission discussed the merits and drawbacks to this resolution including that it only applies to the downtown area; that it does not include

all city facilities; cost implications; potential pushback from contractors; and that 2 stroke engines are not widely used by professionals so air quality improvements may be minimal. Before postponing the item, Commissioners recommended reaching out to Parks staff for feedback; revising the ordinance to have more specific goals; and using the resolution as a chance to provide education.

Tabled

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, OTHER COMMISSIONS, COUNCIL, AND CHAIR

Energy Commission: Volunteer solar installations on city property moving ahead; possibility of using methane at Wheeler; revisiting hydro power on dams; exploring energy storage; developing an EV Readiness Ordinance; AAATA making bus replacements; working on home energy score/ Time of Marketing Ordinance; and info about a draft resolution related to regulated utilities being prohibited from making donations to 501c4s.

Parks Commission: Hiring season is starting for 300 positions; \$450,000 tree service contract including invasive species guidelines; and limited skating days due to weather.

Planning Commission: Working session coming up to think about transportation-oriented zoning/overlay districts but still in early stages.

City Council: Recent interview about nuclear preparedness issue. From Parks, center of city for public rental. \$400,000 for tree planting. Resolution to become member of regional solid waste authority. Mayor wants funding for Lower Town Mobility Study in city budget. Resolution regarding Washtenaw mental health and public safety and current efforts to undo 40-40-20 allocation. Global climate strike on March 15th.

REPORT FROM STAFF

Staff Drennen gave a staff update including: Green fleets update that new EVs are here but not yet in service. The committee is charged with eliminating low-use vehicles and has been talking with police and fire about vehicle usage. She also commented that the committee will hopefully be thinking about idling issues. Staff from the Office of Sustainability and Innovations attended the first Michigan climate action conference in Grand Rapids and learned about efforts in other cities and at the state level. Staff is also working on an application for peer learning exchange with Blue LA. Staff is also working on the EV readiness

ordinance; helped pick the City's new Equity Consultant; and will begin leading the 2nd cohort of racial equity training in May. Dr Stults attended the first meeting of the UM President's Commission on Carbon Neutrality. Sustainability Forums have had great attendance. Next one will feature SEAS Dean Dr. Overpeck and Emily Drennen on the topic of "Climate 201" on Thursday, March 21st at 7pm and the downtown library. There has been a great deal of interest from potential summer interns. Staff has also been working with two UM student groups on their effort to green rental housing. A cohort of cities will be coming to Ann Arbor to learn about the City's rental licensing program on March 12th. Dr Stults and Assistant City Manager Fournier are in DC at a renewable energy boot camp.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Jen Lawson about status of Allen Creek.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is March 28, 2019 at 7pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Ken Garber supports the 40/40/20 split of the County millage rebate.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Needham adjourned the meeting at 9:04pm

All persons are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Citizens requiring translation or sign language services or other reasonable accommodations may contact the City Clerk's office at 734.794.6140; via e-mail to: cityclerk@a2gov.org; or by written request addressed and mailed or delivered to:

**City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.