



City of Ann Arbor

Formal Minutes

Environmental Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/
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Thursday, April 27, 2017

7:00 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hutton called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: 10 - Christopher L. Graham, Susan Hutton, Allison Skinner,
Robert Needham, Chip Smith, Karie Slavik, Jason
Frenzel, John Mirsky, Veronica Hannah, and Mike Appel

Absent: 1 - Jarin Marocco

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[17-0651](#) Environmental Commission Minutes of 3-23-2017

**A motion was made by Graham, seconded by Energy Commission
Rep. Mirsky, that the March 2017 meeting minutes be Approved as
presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Chair of the Energy Commission, Wayne Appleyard, spoke to the Commission about City budget issues. He reported that the Energy Commission supported spending a minimum of \$750,000 on a five point climate action project. He also reported that a Hawaiian station recently recorded 410 parts per million for the first time, and that climate is the biggest threat to our current society. As for the \$165,000 that is currently in the budget, Mr Appleyard urged the Commission to support the resolution that the Commission will be considering tonight. He also urged the Commission to support a resolution about solar on City-owned buildings. Mr Appleyard recommended new funding because without new funding, the City will only be dealing with the 1.3% of greenhouse gases that are generated by City government.

Jan Wright from Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice asked questions about the Organics Management Plan. She expressed surprise that nothing beyond a pilot program was suggested for improving residential compost collection. She was also curious about why she did not see anything in the plan about multifamily organics collection.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS**Presentation - Stormwater Rates - Systems Planning Staff**

Jen Lawson, Stormwater Programs Manager for the City, gave a presentation about stormwater rates. She began by giving a primer on what Ann Arbor's Stormwater Utility is, what it covers, and how much is raised in revenues per year. She then spoke about how the City investigated the City's stormwater rates, now and into the future. The study proposes increasing the average residential rate 28% between FY 2017 and FY 2018, with rates roughly doubling in ten years. Rebates for new residential trees could be part of the new program depending on whether the rates are approved. The video for this item runs from 5:45 to 47:00.

Presentation - Organics Management Plan - CBI and Systems Planning Staff

17-0657 Ann Arbor Organics Management Plan Presentation

Craig Hupy, Public Services Manager for the City, shared three slides with the Commission about the past, current, and projected finances of the Solid Waste Fund. Staff from CB&I returned to speak to the Commission about their analyses and program recommendations from the Organics Management Plan. The video for this item runs between 1:05:30 and 2:29:45.

17-0676 Resolution from the Environmental Commission to City Council re: climate and community energy funding

Chair Hutton presented the Budget Committee's full report as a memo that was distributed to the Commission members. The resolution calls for the creation of two Full Time Equivalent positions to work on climate, energy, and recycling efforts in the City. The resolution also calls for the City to find alternative revenue sources in the realm of between \$1 million and \$3 million per year.

Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council due back on 6/12/2017

17-0675 Resolution to Adopt City Policy on Solar Power Generation and Energy Efficiency in City-owned Facilities

A motion was made that the Resolution be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 5/1/2017. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES AND CHAIR

Chair Hutton reported that the Zero Waste Committee is hoping to come up with recommendations by the June meeting. The Metrics Committee has yet to meet. Commissioner Mirsky reported that the Energy Commission passed a resolution supporting the five climate projects that were proposed earlier this year, and asked if the Environmental Commission would support such a resolution. Councilperson Smith replied that the Rain Ready Program will be in the stormwater program, and that the budget process should be based on operational policy values rather than line item additions. Commissioner Mirsky urged the City to find the funding to lead on climate.

REPORT FROM STAFF

There was no report from staff.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

May 25, 2017

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

No public commentary.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hutton adjourned the meeting at 10:18pm.

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