



City of Ann Arbor
Formal Minutes - Draft
Environmental Commission

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

Thursday, March 25, 2021

7:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

This meeting is audio only. To participate dial: 1 213 338 8477 or 1 206 337 9723 or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) Webinar ID: 957 7066 1217

CALL TO ORDER

702pm

LAND HERITAGE STATEMENT

ROLL CALL

Present: 10 - Christopher L. Graham, Robert Needham, Lisa Disch, Shannan Gibb-Randall, Kathy Griswold, John Callewaert, Stephen C Brown, John Mirsky, Rita Mitchell, and Marie Gabrielle Buendia

Absent: 3 - Allison Skinner, Jonathan Overpeck, and Lily Faris

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as presented

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Update on WRRMA

[21-0635](#)

Attachments: WRRMA Update.pdf

Presentation by Theo Eggermont of Washtenaw County Service Theo Eggermont suggested going to WRMMA.org for further information. NEXTCYCLE support for new local businesses should focus on glass and compost, considering relative transportation costs.

Update on Recycling Challenges

21-0628

Attachments: EnvComm_ Towards a Zero Waste Community final.pdf

*Presentation by Bryan Ukena of Recycle Ann Arbor
City should consider transitioning to a Resource Management paradigm,
rather than the dated Integrated Waste Management paradigm.
Education at points of entry (carts and dumpsters) needs much more
attention, where EPA recommends \$1-3/household (corresponding to
~\$96K/year for Ann Arbor). Laws supporting Extended Producer
Responsibility are most necessary*

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

21-0627

Attachments: FormalMinutes25-FEB-2021-04-02-48.pdf

**Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council
due back on 4/13/2021**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Chairman Stephen Brown reported that the proposed study on frequency
of trash pickup will be tabled, pending more discussion in the community.
Council Member Lisa Disch indicated that a study of trash pickup was
completed four years ago and would be a useful reference. Chair Brown
will find and circulate a copy of the report, as well as reach out to people
who responded with concerns. Commissioner John Callewaert,
recommended review of the prior study to help with decision making.*

SOLID WASTE DISCUSSION

Council Member Kathy Griswold suggested everyone read the M Live article regarding the proposed changes to the pick-ups

Commissioner John Mirsky will send out to Commissioner the analysis of trash from Jenny Petosky along with and organics study

Chairman Stephen Brown suggested setting up a future meeting on public communication.

NEW BUSINESS

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, OTHER COMMISSIONS, COUNCIL, AND CHAIR

Natural Features Sub Committee- Commissioner Christopher Graham feels progress is being made on UDC code changes regarding landmark and heritage trees, and is concerned zoning for increased density may result in removing more trees, codes need to reflect the ongoing changes Ann Arbor will see in the future.

Zero Waste Working Group Commissioner John Callewart and Council Member Lisa Disch will begin to work with Jenny Petosky. Council Member Lisa Disch and Jenny Petosky met with A2ZERO Ambassadors on multifamily and affordable housing recycling education. They will put together a Sustaining Ann Arbor Grant for recycling education with the A2ZERO Ambassadors.

Planning Commission- Commissioner Shannon Gibb-Randall reported most of the discussion has been around Transit Oriented Development, ADUs, and standards for faster approvals of smaller developments

Energy Commission- Commissioner John Mirsky reported on the franchise agreement between the City of Ann Arbor and DTE. The City of Ann Arbor's agreement predates the Foote Act. Community Choice Aggregation requires legislation to implement, but Ann Arbor could have a second franchise, presentation is on Legistar. Next month there will be a presentation on the Greenbelt and opportunities for solar energy generation or bio sequestration. There will be a presentation from May Mobility for autonomous EV shuttles in April. In May there will be a presentation on the Solar Faithful Model at the Energy Commission.

Parks: No Presentation

Council Report- Council Member Kathy Griswold is working on the Gelman Plume clean up plan while working to coordinate efforts with Congresswoman Dingell and local interveners trying to get everyone on the same page. Judge Connor will have a hearing on May 7th. The current cleanup is under consent order #3 however the public seems unaware of the work currently underway. The plan is to have the courts address the updates to the stricter clean up criteria in the short term and bring in the EPA in the future. A citizen rally will be held in Lansing on April 13 to encourage Governor Whitmer to send a letter of concurrence to the EPA

Pollinators Working Group- Commissioner Rita Mitchell is working with A2ZERO Ambassadors around outreach and working to update the NAP Pollinator website. They would like to post all of the pollinator initiatives going on in the City. Commissioners Christopher Graham and John Mirsky provided contact information with groups involved with pollinators

Chairman Report- Chairman Stephen Brown reported we have 2 members to replace along with 2 youth members. March 31st OSI will have a forum discussing Solid Waste online.

ACTION ITEMS

*Chairman Stephen Brown will seek information from Eileen Naples regarding the solid waste audits
Brian Ukena will send the Zero Waste Plans from other Cities to Chairman Stephen Brown
Galen Hardy will place Chairman Stephen Brown's email as the Commission contact
Chairman Stephen Brown will get in touch with MSU about packaging degree
Chris Graham will distribute information about the Wolfpack*

REPORT FROM STAFF

Report from Staff Galen Hardy- Earth Day is planned for April 25th at 1pm on CTN Channel 16. OSI donated 250 energy efficiency kits to Meals on Wheels recipients.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

*Better managing City Communications
Commissioner Chris Graham will send Wolf Pack information.*

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 22nd at 7pm

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm

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.
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