



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at City Hall Council Chambers, 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Board Members in Attendance:

Robert Deegan, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, James Schissler, and Brian Smith

Board Members Absent:

Mary Ann Neely and Ruthie Redmond

Staff in Attendance:

Andrea Bates
Cari Buetow
Chris Herrington, P. E.
Chuck Lesniak
Diane Gonzales
Fang Wu
Fred Blood
Jose Guerrero, P.E.
Kirk Scanlon
Liz Johnston
Marilla Shepherd
Sylvia Pope
Victoria Li

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL

Speakers should sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to discuss topics not posted on the agenda.

There were no citizens signed up to speak under Citizen Communications.

3. SPECIAL STAFF REPORT

- a. Report on Proposed Restructure of the Drainage Charge – Victoria Li, Director, Watershed Protection Department

This item was conducted as posted. No action taken.

4. 10 MINUTES OF EDUCATION

- a. Air Quality Report on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Proposal to Lower the Ground-level Ozone Standard – Cari Buetow, Transportation Department
Due to technical problems with the audio system, this item was postponed to the next regular meeting on January 7, 2015.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board work session and regular meeting of November 5, 2014.

The minutes of the Environmental Board work session and regular meeting were approved on Board member James Schissler's motion and Board member Robert Deegan's second. Vote 5-0-0-2. Board members Mary Ann Neely and Ruthie Redmond were absent.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Name: 2908 Scenic Drive SP-2013-0295DS

Applicant: Moncada Consulting – Agent Phil Moncada

Location: 2908 Scenic Drive

Staff Reviewer: Liz Johnston, Planning and Development Review Department, and Sylvia Pope, Watershed Protection Department

Watershed: Lake Austin (Water Supply Suburban), Drinking Water Protection Zone

Request:

1. To modify the standard 150-foot width Critical Environmental Feature buffer in order to allow removal of existing stairs and construction of a tram within a corridor 10 feet wide and 55 feet long that spans a canyon rimrock, 25-8-281(C)(1)(a).

Staff Recommendation: Recommend for approval.

Recommendation for approval was made on Board member Robert Deegan's motion and Board member James Schissler's second. Vote 5-0-0-2. Board members Mary Ann Neely and Ruthie Redmond were absent.

7. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Presentation on the Habitat Management Plan for the Barton Springs and Austin Blind Salamanders that Watershed Protection Department recently submitted to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for review – Tom Devitt and Nathan Bendik, Watershed Protection Department
Due to technical problems with the audio system, this item was postponed to the next regular meeting on January 7, 2015.
- b. FY 2013-2014 Town Lake Park Annual Concession Report – Kirk Scanlon, AICP, Parks and Recreation Department
Due to technical problems with the audio system, this item was postponed to the next regular meeting on January 7, 2015.
- c. Briefing on the Wildfire Protection Plan – Ryan Hebrink, Watershed Protection Department
Due to technical problems with the audio system, this item was postponed to the next regular meeting on January 7, 2015.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, and James Schissler, P.E. **No report this week.**
- b. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., Marisa Perales and Ruthie Redmond **No report this week.**
- c. Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, and Mary Ann Neely – **No report this week.**
- d. Development Committee –Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, Robert Deegan, and James Schissler, P.E. - **No report this week.**
- e. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Brian Smith.

No report this week.

- f. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell Marisa Perales, and Mary Ann Neely. **No report this week.**
- g. Air Quality Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Ruthie Redmond and Mary Gay Maxwell
Mary Ann Neely will report on this item.
Due to technical problems with the audio system, this item was postponed to the next regular meeting on January 7, 2015.
- h. Other reports from Board members. **No report this week.**

9. NEW BUSINESS - Future agenda items – None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.