



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 6 2015

The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, May 6 2015 at City Hall Council Chambers, 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Board Members Absent:

Mary Ann Neely

Staff in Attendance:

Christine Barton Holmes

Chuck Lesniak

Jessica Coronado

Jim Dymkowski

Pamela Abee-Tauli

Sylvia Pope

Wendy Rhoades

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: 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 speakers.

3. 10 MINUTES OF EDUCATION

- a. The role of Zero Waste in making Watershed Protection more sustainable – Tom Ennis, Business Process Consultant, Sr., Watershed Protection Department

This item was conducted as posted. No action taken.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

- a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting of April 15, 2015.

The April 15, 2015 meeting minutes were approved on Board Member James Schissler's motion and Board Member Robert Deegan's second. Mary Ann Neely was absent. Vote 6-0-1.

- b. Environmental Officer's report on past Board actions and hot topics– Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer, Watershed Protection Department

- i. SH45 SW Update

This item was conducted as posted. No action was taken.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. **Name:** Cottages of Lantana
Applicant: EuroAmerican Holdings, Ltd. (Jean Pelisserro); Janet Wier Rourke; Linda Kay Wier.
Agent: Smith, Robertson, Elliott & Douglas, L.L.P. (Mary Stratmann)
Location: 5610 and 5804 Wier Hills Road
Staff Reviewer: Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department; and Wendy Rhoades, Planning & Zoning Department
Watershed: Williamson Creek Watershed-Barton Springs Zone (Contributing Zone)
Request: LO-NP zoning to SF-6-NP zoning and to amend the 1987 Restrictive Covenant
Staff Recommendation: Recommended, with conditions.
Recommendation for approval was made on Board Member Robert Deegan's motion and Board Member Ruthie Redmond's second. Vote 5-0-1-1. James Schissler recused. Mary Ann Neely was absent.
- b. **Name:** Sunfield Planned Unit Development C814-2014-0083
Applicant: Coats Rose, PC
Agent: John Joseph
Location: 1901 Turnersville Road
Staff Reviewer: Jim Dymkowski, Planning and Development Review Department/Environmental Staff; Wendy Rhoades, Planning and Zoning Department/Case Manager
Watershed: Onion, Rinard, and Plum Creek Watersheds (Suburban) Desired Development Zone
Request: Review and consider for recommendation environmental aspects of the proposed Planned Unit Development including the requested environmental code exception and environmental superiority elements.
Staff Recommendation: Recommend for approval
Reasons for Recommendation: The proposed PUD meets the requirements of City Code (25-2, Div. 5, 1.1) to be environmentally superior to the development that could otherwise be built under current applicable regulations.
Recommendation for approval was made on Board Member Robert Deegan's motion and Board Member James Schisslers' second. Vote 6-0-0-1. Mary Ann Neely was absent.
- c. **Name:** 3337 Far View Drive SP-2014-0135D
Applicant: Aupperle Company
Agent: Bruce S. Aupperle, PE
Location: 3337 Far View Drive
Staff Reviewer: Pamela Abee-Taulli, PDRD/Environmental Staff; Christine Barton Holmes, PDRD/Case Manager
Watershed: Lake Austin (Water Supply Rural), Drinking Water Protection Zone
Ordinance: Watershed Protection Ordinance (current Code)
Request: To modify the standard 150-foot width Critical Environmental Feature buffer in order to allow construction of a boat dock and a tram within a Critical Environmental Feature (rimrock and seep) buffer corridor 10 feet wide and 420 feet long that spans 2 canyon rimrocks and a seep, 25-8-281(C)(2)(b).
Staff Recommendation: 1. Recommended, with the following conditions:
Per the recommendations of the geotechnical engineer, (MLAW Forensics, Inc.), footing holes should not be drilled into the limestone rock if an obvious fracture exists running through the proposed drill location; and 2. A footing-separation distance of 4 feet above and 2 feet below the canyon rimrock CEF will be observed.
Reasons for Recommendation: The findings of fact have been met.

Recommendation for approval was made on Board Member James Schissler's motion and Board Member Robert Deegan's second. Vote 6-0-0-1. Mary Ann Neely was absent.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Briefing on Watershed Protection Buttermilk Creek Erosion Project – Morgan Byers, Supervising Engineer, Watershed Protection Department
This item was indefinitely postponed.
- b. 2014 Heritage Tree Report – Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator, Development Services Department
This item was conducted as posted. No action was taken.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, James Schissler, P.E., and Brian Smith. **No report this week.**
- b. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, and James Schissler, P. E. **No report this week.**
- c. Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell and Mary Ann Neely. **Mary Gay spoke about taking action to dissolve this committee at a future board meeting.**
- d. Development Committee – Robert Deegan, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales and James Schissler, P.E. **Mary Gay would like to schedule a committee meeting to craft a recommendation regarding the South Lamar Corridor Study to send to Council.**
- e. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Ruthie Redmond and Brian Smith. **Mary Gay would like to schedule a committee meeting to craft a recommendation regarding SH45 SW to send to Council.**
- 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. **Ruthie Redmond spoke on an Ozone presentation that will be shared with the full board at the next meeting on May 20, 2015.**
- h. Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell. **Mary Gay provided a brief update on the items discussed at the April 29, 2015 committee meeting.**
- i. Other reports from Board members. **No report this week.**

8. NEW BUSINESS –

- 1. Research the planned completion of the Cemetery Master Plan and consider scheduling a briefing**
- 2. Consider scheduling the Onion Creek buyout item for an upcoming board meeting**

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting to order at 8:25 p.m.

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For more information on the Environmental Board, please contact **Jessica Coronado**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443.