



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 17 2015

The Environmental Board convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 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, Mary Ann Neely and Brian Smith

Staff in Attendance:

Chris Herrington
Chuck Lesniak
Connie Campa
David Johns
Jean Drew
Jessica Coronado
Joe Pantalione
Jose Guerrero
Kim McKnight
Nikki Hoelter
Regina Ramos
Sue Barnett
Sylvia Pope

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 was 1 speaker:

-Luke Metzger spoke on possible action regarding the use of neonicotinoids in the City.

3. 10 MINUTES OF EDUCATION

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

- a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting of February 18, 2015.

The May 6, 2015 meeting minutes were approved on Board Member Robert Deegan's motion and Board Member James Schissler's second with an amendment made to include mention of a future agenda item regarding an update on Shady Hollow. Vote 7-0-0-0.

- b. Environmental Officer's Report and hot topics– Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer

- i. Appreciation for departing board members

No action taken. Item conducted as posted.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. **Name:** Caswell Estates C8-2014-0134.0A
Applicant: Wuest Group; Scott Wuest, P.E., 512-394-1900
Location: 3336 Mount Bonnell Dr.
Staff Reviewer: Sylvia Pope, Watershed Protection Department; Don Perryman, Development Services Department Case Manager
Watershed: Huck's Slough Watershed and Lake Austin Watershed (Water Supply Suburban, Drinking Water Protection Zone)
Request: Variance requests are as follows: 1) – To allow a CEF on a residential lot [LDC 25-8-281(B)] and 2) – To reduce a CEF setback to 50 feet [LDC 25-8-281(C)(1)(a)]
Staff Recommendation: Recommended with conditions.
The recommendation for approval was made on Board Member James Schissler's motion and on Board Member Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 7-0-0-0.
- b. **Name:** Block 188 SP-2015-0112A
Applicant: City of Austin, Fred Evins, 512-974-7115
Location: 202 Nueces Street
Staff Reviewer: Nikki Hoelter, Development Services Department Case Manager
Watershed: Shoal Creek and Lady Bird Lake (Urban)
Request: Waiver requested from Ch. 25-2-738(E) to allow encroachment within the 70 degree angle from Shoal Creek
Staff Recommendation: Recommended
The recommendation for approval was made on Board Member Robert Deegan's motion and on Board Member Marisa Perales' second. Board Member James Schissler recused. Vote 1-6-0-0-0.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Discuss and consider a recommendation for the Watershed Protection Department's FY16 budget – Connie Campa, Financial Consultant, Watershed Protection Department
The recommendation for approval was made on Board Member James Schissler's motion and on Board Member Robert Deegan's second. Vote 7-0-0-0.
- b. Briefing on the City's proposed Cemetery Master Plan – Kim McKnight, Project Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department
Three speakers signed up to speak on this item:
-Sharon Blythe spoke against the item.
-Michael Fossum spoke against the item.
-Zoila Vega donated her time to Michael Fossum.

The recommendation for approval with the following friendly amendment on motion by Board Member Robert Deegan and seconded by Board Member Ruthie Redmond on a 7-0-0-0 vote. The friendly amendment from Board Member Marisa Perales was to take into consideration the design of the trees. This was accepted by the maker of the motion and Board Member Ruthie Redmond who seconded the motion.
- c. Final update on Environmental Commissioning for Water Treatment Plant No. 4 – David Johns, Environmental Scientist, Watershed Protection Department and Chuck Lesniak, Environmental Officer, Watershed Protection Department
No action taken. Item conducted as posted.

- d. Report on recent flooding in Hemphill Park, Hyde Park, and Shoal Creek – Watershed Protection Department
This item was withdrawn.

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. **No report this week.**
- d. Development Committee – Robert Deegan, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales and James Schissler, P.E. **No report this week.**
- e. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Ruthie Redmond and 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. **No report this week.**
- h. Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell. **No report this week.**
- i. Other reports from Board members. **No report this week.**

8. AFTER 10:00 P.M.

The motion to waive the rules and allow the Environmental Board to meet after 10 p.m. was approved on Board Member James Schissler’s motion, and on Board Member Robert Deegan’s second. Vote 7-0-0-0.

9. NEW BUSINESS –

- 1. Discuss possible action regarding the use of neonicotinoids in the City.**
- 2. Update on Shady Hollow annexation and W/WW service.**

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting to order at 10:12 p.m.

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