



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 1, 2018

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, August 1, 2018 at City Hall in the Boards and Commissions Room at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

**Brian Smith
Andrew Creel
Pam Thompson
Katie Coyne
Mary Ann Neely
Peggy Maceo
Hank Smith
Linda Guerrero
Wendy Gordon**

Commissioners Absent:

Marisa Perales

Staff in Attendance:

**Kaela Champlin
Marisa Flores-Gonzalez
Chris Herrington
Scott Hiers
Liz Johnston
Teresa Lutes
Atha Phillips
Christina Romero**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:07 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.

None

3. EDUCATION

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of July 18, 2018
(5 minutes)

The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of July 18, 2018 were approved on Commissioner Gordon's motion, Commissioner Thompson's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioner Coyne abstained. Commissioner Perales was absent.

5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**
 - a. None
6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS***
 - a. None
7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - a. Presentation on Development Services Department's FY18-19 Budget—Rodney Gonzales, Director, Development Services Department **(30 minutes)**
Item 7a was postponed. No action taken.
 - b. Presentation on Water Forward, Austin's Integrated Water Resource Plan—Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Program Manager and Teresa Lutes, Managing Engineer, Austin Water **(30 minutes)**
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
 - c. Review and recommend approval to include Austin Water (AW) Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) located in the Drinking Water Protection Zone (DWPZ) in AW's 5-year capital spending plan as required by AW's financial policy #8—Christina Romero, Financial Manager II, Austin Water **(10 minutes)**
A motion to recommend approval of AW's CIPs located in the DWPZ in AW's 5-year capital spending plan was approved on Commissioner H. Smith's motion, Commissioner Creel's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Perales was absent.
 - d. Discuss and consider referral of erosion and sedimentation control for infill development to an Environmental Commission subcommittee—Linda Guerrero, Environmental Commission Chair **(10 minutes)**
Item 7d was referred to the Development Committee for further consideration.
 - e. Appoint one member of the Environmental Commission to serve on a working group to provide recommendations regarding proposed improvements to fortify the landfill cap, traffic, and parking issues in Zilker Park as directed by City Council Resolution No. 20180628-072 **(10 minutes)**
A motion to nominate Commissioner H. Smith to serve on the Zilker Park Working Group was approved on Commissioner Coyne's motion, Commissioner Creel's second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner Perales was absent.
8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - a. **Name:** Schwausch Boat Dock (SP-2018-0128D) (D-10)
Applicant: Rick Rasberry
Location: 3335 Far View Drive
Staff: Atha Phillips, Environmental Program Coordinator, Watershed Protection Department
Saj Zappitello, Environmental Scientist, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Slaughter Creek
Request: Variance request is as follows: 1. Critical Environmental Features [LDC 25-8-281(C)(2)(b)] To allow construction of a tram and boat dock within a critical environmental feature buffer
Staff Recommendation: Staff does not recommend the variance.
Reasons for Recommendation: The findings of fact have not been met.
(30 minutes)
A motion to not recommend the Schwausch Boat Dock variance request was approved on Commissioner Gordon's motion, Commissioner Neely's second.

A substitute motion to send Item 8a to a committee for consideration failed for lack of a second on Commissioner H. Smith's motion.

A motion to amend Commissioner Gordon's motion was approved on Commissioner Thompson's motion, Commissioner Neely's second, on a 7-1 vote. Those voting aye were: Commissioners Thompson, Neely, Coyne, Maceo, Guerrero, Gordon and B. Smith. Those voting nay were: Commissioner H. Smith. Commissioner Creel abstained. Commissioner Perales was absent.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Linda Guerrero, and Wendy Gordon
- b. Development Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Katie Coyne, and Wendy Gordon
- c. Air Quality Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Pam Thompson, and Wendy Gordon
- d. Urban Forestry Committee – Peggy Maceo, Pam Thompson, Linda Guerrero, Mary Ann Neely, and Wendy Gordon
- e. Drainage Infrastructure and Flood Mitigation Committee – Marisa Perales, Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Hank Smith, and Brian Smith
- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
- j. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee
- k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board – Mary Ann Neely, Peggy Maceo, Linda Guerrero, and Pam Thompson
- l. Report on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board – Linda Guerrero
- m. Other reports from Commissioners

10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

- a. None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM

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** A member of the public may not address a board or commission at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing, per City Code Sec-144(E).*