



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at City Hall in Council Chambers at 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

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

Commissioners Absent:

**Peggy Maceo
Wendy Gordon**

Staff in Attendance:

**Alex Butler
Kaela Champlin
Virginia Collier
Kelly Gagnon
Jonathan Garner
Anupa Gharpurey
Jose Guerrero
Sara Hartley
Chris Herrington
Kristin Kasper Pipkin
Mike McDougal
Kristy Nguyen
Atha Phillips
Janna Renfro**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 6:08 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. Waller Creek Conservancy Project Update—Melissa Ayala and Peter Mullan, Waller Creek Conservancy and Kristin Kasper Pipkin, Redevelopment Project Manager, Watershed Protection Department (30 mins)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION**
 - a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of April 17, 2019 (5 minutes)
The minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of April 17, 2019 were approved on Commissioner Thompson motion, Commissioner Coyne's second on an 7-0 vote. Commissioners Gordon and Maceo were absent. Commissioner C. Smith was off the dais.
5. **ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST**
 - a. None
6. **STAFF BRIEFINGS***
 - a. Status update on erosion concerns for Country Club Creek in Roy G. Guerrero Park—Janna Renfro, Engineer C, Watershed Protection Department (30 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
7. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - a. Consider Watershed Protection Department's FY 20 Financial Forecast—Anupa Gharpurey, Financial Manager III, Watershed Protection Department (30 minutes)
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.
8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - a. **Name:** Water Control and Improvement District No. 20, Application for City Consent to Annexation (C12M-2019-0001)
Applicant: Terrance Irion, representing John and Joni Ballis, property owners
Location: Approximately 2.309 acres located at 1111 N Weston Lane in the Austin extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) in western Travis County, Texas.
Staff: Virginia Collier, Planning and Zoning Department and Atha Phillips, Watershed Protection Department
Watershed: Lake Austin
Request: Consider application requesting City consent to the annexation of approximately 2.309 acres located at 1111 N Weston Lane into Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 20 (C12M-2019-0001) and make a recommendation to Council on the request.
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends consent to the proposed annexation into Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 20.
Reasons for Recommendation: Annexation into the District will not affect the City of Austin's annexation plans and staff does not anticipate any negative land use impacts on adjacent property. Staff has determined that the property requesting City consent to annexation into WCID 20 is outside of Austin Water's (AW) impact fee boundary. For AW to serve this property, a waiver to the LDC 25-9-3 would be required. The code states the City may not provide water or wastewater service outside the service area of the Austin Water Utility unless the council by ordinance waives the prohibition. Additionally, water and wastewater services are approximately 2 miles away from the property. Finally, regulations for development will follow the same rules and processes currently in effect if the District annexes the tract.
(30 minutes)

Speakers

Terry Irion

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Coyne's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Creel was off the dais. Commissioners Gordon and Maceo were absent.

A recommendation to support the proposed annexation request was approved on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner B. Smith's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Creel was off the dais. Commissioners Gordon and Maceo were absent.

- b. **Name:** Turner's Crossing Preliminary Plan C8J-2018-0091
Applicant: Rob Smith, P.E. and Josh Miksch, P.E., Kimley-Horn
Location: East of North Turnersville Rd., between FM 1327 and Turnersville Rd., Austin, Travis County, TX (2-mile Extraterritorial Jurisdiction)
Staff: Jonathan Garner, Environmental Review Program Coordinator, Development Services Department
Watershed: Rinard Creek Watershed, Suburban Classification, Desired Development Zone
Request: Request to vary from LDC 30-5-341 for cut to exceed not more than 14.7 feet of depth and LDC 30-5-342 for fill to exceed not more than 14.9 feet of depth
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends these variances, having determined the findings of fact to have been met.
(30 minutes)

A motion to close the public hearing was approved on Commissioner Coyne's motion, Thompson's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioners Gordon and Maceo were absent. Commissioner C. Smith was off the dais. Commissioner Ramberg recused on Item 8b.

A motion to approve the variance request was approved with conditions on Commissioner Guerrero's motion, Commissioner Neely's second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner C. Smith was off the dais. Commissioner Ramberg recused on Item 8b. Commissioners Gordon and Maceo were absent.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Growth Policy and Water Quality Protection Committee –Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, Linda Guerrero, and Wendy Gordon
- b. Development Committee –Pam Thompson, Hank Smith, 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 –Pam Thompson, Mary Ann Neely, Hank Smith, and Brian Smith
- i. Report on the Joint Sustainability Committee – Katie Coyne
Commissioner Coyne gave an update on the Joint Sustainability Committee
- 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
Commissioner Guerrero gave an update on the South Central Waterfront Advisory Board
- m. Zilker Park Working Group –Mary Ann Neely
- n. Other reports from Commissioners

10. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

- a. None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Guerrero adjourned the meeting at 9:27 P.M.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. For additional information, please call **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711. For more information on the Environmental Commission, please contact **Kaela Champlin**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443.

** 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 Section 2-1-144(E).*