



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 16 2015

The Environmental Commission convened in a public meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at City in Boards & Commissions, 301 W. 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Brian Smith
Hank Smith
Marisa Perales
Mary Ann Neely
Mary Gay Maxwell
Richard Grayum
Pam Thompson
Peggy Maceo
Andrew Creel
Michael Moya

Commissioner Absent:

Erin Gooch

Staff in Attendance:

Andrea Bates
Chris Herrington
Chuck Lesniak
James Dymkowski
Jerry Rusthoven
Jessica Coronado
Justice Jones
Mateo Scoggins
Mike Personett
Ryan Hebrink
Tom Ennis
Wendy Rhoades

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

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.

3. EDUCATION

a. None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION

- a. Approve the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of November 18, 2015.

Approval of the minutes of the regular Environmental Commission meeting of November 18, 2015 was made on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's motion and on Commissioner Hank Smith's second. Vote 8-0-0-3. Commissioner Erin Gooch was absent and Commissioners Marisa Perales and Pam Thompson were off the dais.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER'S UPDATE ON PAST COMMISSION ACTIONS AND REPORT ON ITEMS OF INTEREST

- a. Hart Residence Variance
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

- b. 14708 Flat Top Ranch
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION*

- a. Update on Fire Resilient Landscape Initiative – Justice Jones, Wildfire Division Manager, Austin Fire Department
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

- b. Briefing on 10 Years of Austin's Coal Tar Sealer Ban: Science, Enforcement & Progress – Mateo Scoggins, Watershed Protection Department
Item conducted as posted. No action taken.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. **Name:** Sun Chase PUD
Owner: Qualico CR, L.P. (Vera Massaro)
Agent: Armbrust & Brown, L.L.P. (Richard Suttle)
Location: 15201, 15810, 16070 Pearce Lane and 7910 Wolf Lane
Staff Reviewer: Andrea Bates, Watershed Protection Department; James Dymkowski, Development Services Department/Environmental Staff; Wendy Rhoades, Planning & Zoning Department/Case Manager
Watershed: Dry Creek East Watershed (Suburban) Desired Development Zone
Request: Review and consider for recommendation the environmental aspects of the proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD), including code modifications and environmental superiority.
Staff Recommendation: Recommend for approval with the condition that environmental superiority is met.
Reasons: The proposed PUD is not environmentally superior to development that could otherwise be built under current applicable regulations.
The recommendation for approval with conditions was made on Commissioner Hank Smith's motion and on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's second. Vote 10-0-0-1. Commissioner Erin Gooch was absent.

- b. **Name:** The Grove at Shoal Creek Planned Unit Development
Applicant: ARG Bull Creek, LTD (Garrett Martin)
Location: 4205 Bull Creek Road
Staff Reviewer: Jim Dymkowski, Development Services Department/Environmental Staff; Sherri Sirwaitis, Planning & Zoning Department/Case Manager.
Watershed: Shoal Creek Watershed

Request: Review and consider for recommendation the environmental aspects of the proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD), including code modifications and environmental superiority.

Staff Recommendation: Postponement

Reasons: Significant aspects of the PUD, including base zoning and transportation, remain to be addressed so there is no staff recommendation on the PUD as a whole at this time.

The recommendation to postpone the item indefinitely was made on Commissioner Mary Ann Neely's motion and on Andrew Creel's second. Vote 7-1-1-2. Commissioner Erin Gooch was absent and Commissioner Pam Thompson was off the dais. Commissioner Hank Smith abstained.

There was a friendly amendment made by Commissioner Richard Grayum to send the item for review to the Development Committee of the Environmental Commission prior to its placement on a future Environmental Commission agenda. This was not accepted by the maker of the motion or the second.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Growth Policy Committee
- b. Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee
- c. Development Committee
Chair Mary Gay Maxwell provided a report.
- d. Water Quality Regulations Committee
- e. Watershed Protection Budget Committee
- f. Air Quality Committee
- g. Report from Mary Gay Maxwell on the Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability Council Committee
- h. Report from Pam Thompson on the Parkland Events Task Force
Commissioner Pam Thompson provided a report.
- i. Report from Erin Gooch on the Joint Sustainability Committee
- j. Report from Mary Ann Neely on the Balcones Canyon Conservation Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee
- k. Report on the Joint Committee of the Environmental Commission and Parks and Recreation Board
Commissioner Mary Ann Neely
- l. Other reports from Commissioners

9. NEW BUSINESS – Future agenda items

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm.

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 **Jessica Coronado**, Watershed Protection Department, at (512) 974-3443; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

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