

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Athens City Building  
Tuesday January 3, 2017 5:30 PM

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1. Call to order—Chairperson Richard Linscott called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Members present include Mr. Linscott, Elaine Goetz, Cliff Hamilton, Mat Roberts, Meredith Price Mullins, and Ed Newman. Andrew Ladd and Jennifer Cochran were absent. Quorum was established. City planner Paul Logue recorded the minutes.

2. Disposition of Minutes—the minutes from December 6, 2016 were reviewed by the commission. Without addition, deletion, or correction Mr. Roberts motioned to approve the minutes, Mr. Newman seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, February 7 at 5:30 PM at City Hall.

4. Old Business

A. Sustainability plan— the commissioners discussed the current state of the plan. It is more/less ready for final review. There are a few data points that still need baseline numbers. The commission wants to get this to council this month and have a final review work session prior to that. Mat has energy write up following the state goals and encourage reductions at 2% for 2017 and 4% drop at 2020.

B. Energy Saving Trees program—Mat Roberts has drafted a letter of support and asked commission members to sign as a show of support. The city shade tree commission supported this as well. Paul recommended Mat check in with soil and water district too. Mat is interested in applying for grants and working with the local utilities for this project.

C. ICLEI membership—the commission discussed this again and is not willing to commit at this meeting. Ms. Goetz recommended using software modules that other communities are using.

5. New Business

A. 2017 commission work—the commission discussed some projects and goals for 2017 including single use plastic bag data collection; rain barrel workshops; possible grant funders for rain barrels, shade tree plantings. Ms. Price Mullins will touch base with Soil and Water regarding their program. Paul will keep the commission updated on any relevant grants he may find on Grantfinder. The commissioners discussed the implementation and update mechanisms for the sustainability plan. Items regarding the plan included education, outreach, workshops, meeting with the shade tree commission, and commissioner responsibilities. Paul, Mat, and Elaine will work on a framework for the for Feb meeting. The commission also discussed working with Erin Sykes at Rural Action to get the city enrolled in the Zero Waste program. Paul will invite Ms. Sykes to the February meeting.

#### 6. Announcements and Updates

- Meredith reported that the Burr Oak winter hike will be held on Feb 11 at 10 AM at Burr Oak Lodge
- Mat reported that OU Credit Union is interested in expanding sustainability related loan programs including electric vehicles and solar installations and would like to hear more suggestions.

#### 7. Adjournment

Richard motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.