

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting MINUTES
Athens City Building
Wednesday March 6, 2019 6:30 PM

1. Call to order—Chair Richard Linscott called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Members present include Linscott, Sam Crowl, Elaine Goetz, Kristin Rice, Caitlin Garrity, Cliff Hamilton, Ed Newman, Stefan Gleissberg, Aimee Delach, and Paul Logue. Member Jessica Dalzell was absent. Quorum was established. Guests include Beth Clodfelter.

2. Disposition of Minutes—Ms. Rice noted a correction on the spelling of her first name. Mr. Hamilton moved to approve the minutes with the correction noted. Rice seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The minutes were approved.

3. Next Meeting Date—April 3, 2019 at 6:30 PM at City Hall

4. Old Business

A. Action items/projects for 2019 and beyond (All)—Ms. Goetz hasn't heard back from ACSO regarding the Green Apple Day of Service. She will try to follow-up on this. Deadline is March 15 and the program requires a school partner.

B. Draft biodiversity section for plan-- Mr. Gleissberg questioned including Strouds Run in the biodiversity assessment since it is not in the city. There are also city owned parks lands at Sells Park that never annexed into the city. Ms. Delach reported that Ridges species counts don't use common names. She would like to organize the bio blitz in June. Linscott mentioned a program at Rural Action to see if they are interested in participating. Gleissberg will follow up with RA.

C. Athens City Schools planning (Crowl)—Mr. Crowl reported that district superintendent Gibbs and the school board are not looking at net-zero energy design for the new schools. State regulations require LEED silver. Crowl drafted letter on behalf of the commission to open a conversation on this matter with the board. Council rep Fahl is also interested in working on this.

D. East State Street/OU land (Gleissberg)—a stewardship management plan was drafted for this land and Mayor Patterson is supportive.

5. New Business

A. Council 2019 priorities (Crowl)—Crowl reported that Chris Fahl is interested in a better understanding of commission priorities. Items include increased recycling services to apartment complexes, climate change, bio blitz, schools construction.

B. Beth Clodfelter—Ms. Clodfelter introduced herself to the commission. She is currently running for an at-large seat on Athens City Council. She is on the board for the recycling center and a few others. She has concerns about public safety including lighting and sidewalks, sustainability

(including compost, solar energy, and rain gardens), river safety at White's Mill, Hocking River channel management policies, and improved traffic safety infrastructure.

C. City Waste and Recycling Contract (Crowl)—contract is up for renewal this year. He is working on this with service-safety director and others at city. He would like some suggestions for things to consider in contract. Mr. Newman and Clodfelter are on the board for the recycling center. Ms. Garrity noted that Andrea Reany from Rural Action zero waste is helping with this. Newman noted that Ohio University staff members Andrew Ladd and Annie Laurie Cadmus helped draft the university's RFP.

6. Announcements and Updates

A. Thesis project (Dalzell)--not present.

B. Wayne NF forest planning (Delach)—She left prior to opportunity to report.

Linscott asked for everyone's indicators to put in the update.

Hamilton reported on America In Bloom program that city participates in and he volunteers for. He would like to get some policies on the books to help move this and asked to discuss in April.

7. Adjournment

With all agenda items covered and no additional business Garrity motioned to adjourn the meeting. Linscott seconded the motion. All voted in favor of adjournment. The meeting ended at 7:33PM.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue