

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Zoom Conference Call  
Wednesday May 5, 2021 6:00 PM

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1. Call to order—Chair Aimee Delach called the meeting to order at 6 PM. Members present include Delach, Sarah Conley-Ballew, Ed Newman, Jasmine Facun, Stefan Gleissberg, Megan Almeida, Sam Crowl, Paul Logue, Austin Babrow, and Elaine Goetz. Member Megan Westervelt absence was reported in advance. Quorum was established. Guests include Deputy Service-Safety Director Andrew Chiki and Jon-Paul d'Aversa from UnpredictableCity.

2. Disposition of Minutes—Sarah Conley-Ballew motioned to approve the minutes as submitted to the commission, Austin Babrow seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of approval. The minutes were approved as submitted to the commission.

3. Next Meeting Date – June 2, 2021

4. Old Business

A. Backyard Chickens—Sarah reported that a draft survey has been created. Jasmine Facun made a motion to add commission member names to the email list for surveys. Austin seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion was approved.

5. New Business

A. Power a Clean Future Ohio resolution—Sam Crowl stated that Mayor Patterson is supportive of this initiative and would like the city to be involved with it. Sam is bringing a resolution forward to City Council. Sam explained the program and provided the draft resolution to the commission. Jon-Paul d'Aversa from Unpredictable City introduced himself to the commission. His firm is on a state contract to provide consulting on the PCFO initiative. Several cities in Ohio are participating. Elaine Goetz asked about scopes 1, 2, and 3. Jon-Paul stated they will look at those scopes and provide data on them. They are using the CURB tool which allows for national and regional averages when data isn't available. This will be sufficient to help with policy decisions. Aimee suggested using 2020 as baseline. (More info on CURB can be found here <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/urbandevelopment/brief/the-curb-tool-climate-action-for-urban-sustainability> )

B. Ohio Town Gown Summit—Elaine suggested the commission consider a presentation for this conference in July. Aimee, Ed, Sam, Paul, and Elaine meet and discuss in more detail.

C. Compost Week—this is a national event and is taking place this week. Ed would like to see a campaign around this topic. The city's government channel staff will promote on city social media platforms.

D. Hocking River Conservancy—Members had a discussion on inviting the HRC to a meeting sometime this summer to discuss maintenance plan, future goals, etc. Commission members discussed a survey project on this matter as well. Paul will reach out to HRC to discuss.

6. Announcements and Updates

A. Bee City USA-- Sam reported that the city and OU campus have secured Bee City USA designation and conversations are ongoing about where pollinator habitats can be developed. Sam noted that there is interest in using some areas of an OU owned field along Union Street across from

Larry's Dawg House. City is working on ground mounted solar project to include pollinator gardens with them.

B. Wayne National Forest plan—there was no update.

C. Federal update—Aimee reported that President Biden hosted a symposium on climate change a few weeks ago. The US government sent a contribution to the Paris Climate Agreement that we will reach 50% below 2005 GHG by 2030. Aimee suggested we align with this.

7. Adjournment—Jasmin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sam seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue