

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

Regular Meeting Agenda

August 4, 2016

6:00 PM

Municipal Building City Manager's
Conference Room

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of EQAB Members and recognition of visitors
3. Approval of the Agenda, Announcements, and Citizen Input
4. Review and approval of Minutes of the July 7, 2016 Regular Meeting
5. Unfinished Business
 - a) Letter on East Fork Poplar Creek mercury R&D facility
 - b) Review of Draft City Tree Plan document and Workshop Agenda
 - c) Update: City energy savings contract
 - d) Member reports and announcements
6. New Business
7. Action Items
8. Adjournment

Environmental Quality Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2016 DRAFT

1. Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB) was held at the Municipal Building Conference Room. The meeting convened at 6:10pm with, Steve Kenworthy chairman, presiding.
2. Introduction of EQAB Members and recognition of visitors
 - a. Members in attendance: Bruce Applegate (Staff Liaison), Gray Dean, , Bryan Crable, Kaela O'Dell, Pat Imperato, Steve Kenworthy, Rhonda Bogard, Robert Kennedy
 - b. Members Absent: Joe Wood, Trystan Bordeau
 - c. Non-member guests: Kathy Olsen with the League of Women Voters
3. Approval of the Agenda, Announcements, and Citizen Input
 - a. Added Carl Yearwood Park stream bank erosion impacting stormwater collection problem presented by Dr. Jim Horton
 - b. Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Bryan Crable, and seconded by Robert Kennedy
4. Review and approval of Minutes from April 7, 2016 Regular Meeting:
 - a. Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Steve Kenworthy and seconded by Kaela O'Dell.
5. Unfinished Business
 - a. Status: City Tree Plan document is planned to be nearly completed at July 21st work session, and edited by the end of August. It will be circulated to department heads with option for comment before being released to city council; local ash tree mortality: Pat will be contacting Jeff Holt and Simpson and other arborists to see about what can be done and if there can be sponsorship for treatment. Robert Kennedy made the point that the ash trees are probably done. Keep track of what it costs the city to get rid of the dead ones. Time and material costs must be tracked, and haven't been in the past. To invest in tree maintenance we need to know what it costs when you don't maintain it. Species should be tracked as well to inform about risk factors.
 - b. Update: City energy savings contract and CAP progress report: Robert Kennedy informed that they down-selected to two of the contractors. The two finalists did a walk-through. There are three two-hour meetings this month. The final meeting to choose a company will be on July 27th, and information will be released to the public sometime in October. CAP will be revised based on the information from the contract.
 - c) Member reports and announcements: Rhonda Bogard spoke about the presentation about the mercury creek-side study. The discussion is surrounding a research facility on East Fork Poplar creek. TDEC felt there was a contact risk due to elevated methyl mercury farther than originally thought, and they are trying to reduce methyl-mercury in the creek. They are looking at different impact factors. Signage isn't going to be changed. Rhonda offered to send out the electronic version of the presentation. Pat Imperato suggested drafting a letter to city council to address awareness and support of

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the Research facility at East Fork Poplar Creek. Rhonda Bogard seconded motion to draft letter. Steve Kenworthy offered to write the letter.

6. New Business:

- a. Bruce passed along email by request of Jim Horton, and Jon Hetrick. Public works will be the ones taking care of the work. The drainage area to the east/southeast along Bus Terminal Road, on the Bus Terminal Road of Carl Yearwood Park has standing water and the banksides are sloughing off and blocking the storm sewer.
 - b. Tree Workshop: Pat distributed a draft agenda for a tree workshop at the UT Arboretum on November 12, 2016. Possible speaker list will be lined up by the end of July.
7. Action Items: Steve Kenworthy will draft letter to city about mercury research facility, and will draft letter to Dr. Jim Horton to inform him that we reviewed his email and communicated it to Public Works. Bruce needs participants for energy savings (MORE2), so he is actively trying to get people to sign up.
8. Adjournment: Steve Kenworthy moved to adjourn. Pat Imperato seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kaela O'Dell

07-7-2016

TO Oak Ridge City Council Members and City Manager Mark Watson

RE: DOE Mercury Remediation Research and Technology Development

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has made significant investments in solving the persistent problem of mercury in water, sediment, and fish in East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) between the Y-12 National Security Complex and the East Tennessee Technology Park. Although Y-12 mercury-related risks to Oak Ridge residents are minimal, ongoing research and technology development by Oak Ridge National Laboratory, funded by the Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management (OREM), is focused on limiting bioaccumulation of mercury in aquatic and terrestrial organisms to ensure long-term protection of public health and the environment. While recognizing recent difficulties in the relationship between the City and DOE, EQAB encourages the City Council and City Manager to support the current OREM mercury remediation technology initiative, including construction of a field research facility at a mutually acceptable location on EFPC. Productive engagement with DOE on this worthwhile environmental technology initiative could help to improve prospects for improved relations in the future.

7.29.16

DRAFT AGENDA

TREE WORKSHOP- November 12, 2016 UT Arboretum Auditorium

8:30 Registration (coffee and water provided)

9:00 Welcome

Kevin Hoyt, Director of the UT Arboretum (483-3571 w, 931-787-5369 c, khoyt@utk.edu)
EQAB Member

9:15 Workshops

- Picking the Right Tree for the Right Location: possibly Kasey Krouse, arborist for the City of Knoxville (confirmed) (865-215-6113 w, kkrouse@knoxvilletn.gov)
- Tree Pruning – David Vandergriff, Knox County Extension agent (confirmed) (865-215-6113 w, dgriff@tennessee.edu)
- Controlling the Emerald Ash Borer - Jerome Grant, UTK entomology Dept. (confirmed) (865-974-0218 w, jgrant@utk.edu)

10:30 15-minute break

10:45 Workshops

- Oak Ridge Urban Forest Management Plan and Canopy Study: Tom Simpson, Regional Urban Forester for TN Dept. of Agriculture (confirmed) Dr. Sharon Jean Philippe, UTK (not available), (974-2946 w, jeanphil@utk.edu)
- Tom Jennings and Ben Reichert UTK graduates (Jennings confirmed) 423-863-5408 c, tejennings15@gmail.com)
- Planting to encourage pollinators, Ask Neil Giffen, (215-2340 w, giffennr1@ornl.gov). ORNL Natural Resources Team (invited)
- Controlling Invasive Plants and Pests – Greg Byrd, (Mobile: 865-384-5050, work: 865-574-7445, byrdgs@ornl.gov.) ORNL Reservation forester (confirmed)

Noon: Workshops conclude

12:30 Mini-Field Tour at Arboretum
Holly Garden
Dogwood Garden
Oakatum