

Environmental Quality Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2015

1. Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB) was held at the Municipal Training Room. The meeting convened at 7:00 PM with Steve Kenworthy, chairman, presiding
2. Introduction of EQAB Members and recognition of visitors
 - a. Members in attendance: Bruce Applegate (Staff Liaison), Steve Kenworthy, Rhonda Bogard, Joe Wood, Pat Imperato, Donna Kridelbaugh, Kaela O'Dell, Trystan Bordeau, Gray Dean, Robert Kennedy
 - b. Members Absent: Paige Russell, Emma Milloway, ,
 - c. Non-member guests: Ellen Smith, Ben Preston, Marion Burger, Chris Iverson
3. Approval of the Agenda, Announcements, and Citizen Input
 - a. Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Dean. Motion passed.
4. Presentation: By Mr. Ben Preston, Deputy Director, Climate Change Science Institute, Oak Ridge National Laboratory: Discussion of City of Knoxville Energy and Sustainability Initiative and Oak Ridge Climate Action Plan. Mr. Preston has worked with the Urban Dynamics Institute in using GIS technology to help define impacts of the future. He works in defining climate resilient infrastructure to develop "Adaptation Actions" requiring situational assessment of sensitivity and vulnerability to environmental impacts. He is working with Knoxville to develop a data driven "Adaptation Tool Box" to predict storm water runoff patterns, describe infrastructure vulnerabilities and risk, prioritize green infrastructure and provide benefit analysis. One of the challenges he mentioned was getting accurate rainfall measurements. Mr. Preston mentioned that there is a U.S. Climate Resiliency Tool Kit that we should review: <https://toolkit.climate.gov/get-started/overview> It was suggested that we contact Mr. Preston in about a year for a review on the plan for Knoxville.
 - a. EQAB members discussed that the Oak Ridge Climate Action Plan (CAP) does not address threat vulnerabilities nor discuss resiliency. In our next review of the CAP we should address reduction of risk.
5. Minutes of 10.1.15 were discussed and minor changes made. Motion to approve the minutes made by Ronnie Bogard, seconded by Robert Kennedy. Motion approved.
6. Unfinished Business
 - a) Status report from City staff on proposed revision of EQAB ordinance (City Code 2-206)
 - i. Steve Kenworthy presented a letter from Mark Watson indicating that Mr. Watson wants to forego an amendment process associated with just improving communication methods between the City Manager's office, EQAB, and the City Council. Mr. Kenworthy will forward the letter to EQAB members for discussion at another meeting.
 - b) Review EQAB action tracker: not done
 - c) Review EQAB communications plan/guidelines, send comments to Donna Kridelbaugh for final revisions
 - d) CAP progress tracking and report:
 - CAP reporting guidelines: Consider adding adaptation actions
 - Discuss appointing EQAB point person as consultant to City staff on next year's CAP report: to be done a later time
 - Assumptions and adjustments used for the CAP emissions model are to be compiled by Robert Kennedy
 - Draft of CAP recommendations were reviewed

7. Tree Board Update: Pat Imperato reviewed conversations with Tom Simpson, State Forester for East TN and individuals who may help with the development of the Tree Plan for the City (Kevin Hoyt, Jeff Holt, Stephanie Carlson, Jack Suggs, Jon Hetrick,). The next EQAB work session on November 10, 2015 will review plans received from Knoxville, Kingston, Chattanooga and Johnson City.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pat Imperato
11.23.15
Approved 12.3.15



Steven Kenworthy, EQAB Chairman