

APPROVED

Environmental Quality Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
January 9, 2014

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Oak Ridge Environmental Quality Advisory Board was held in the Training room of the Municipal Building, Oak Ridge, TN on January 9, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. with Steve Kenworthy, Chairman presiding.

Members in attendance: Steve Kenworthy, Donna Kridelbaugh, Ellen Smith, Aditya Savara, Aditya Chourey, Pat Imperato, Joe Wood, Robert Kennedy.

Members not in attendance: Paige Russell, Sylvia Milanez, Stephanie Paul; Athanasia Senecal Lewis (staff liaison)

Visitors/Others: None

Introductions were made prior to the approval of the agenda.

Approval of the Agenda: A motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Savara to amend and approve the agenda by moving the high school report up to item C, immediately following the election of officers. The motion carried.

Election of EQAB officers for 2014: In three successive votes, all officers from 2013 were re-elected by acclamation. Sylvia Milanez was elected as Secretary, Steve Kenworthy was elected Chairman, and Robert Kennedy was elected Vice-Chairman. There were no other nominations.

High School Report: Mr. Chourey reported that a rain garden has been established in front of the school, supported by a grant from the Lower Clinch River Watershed Council.

He also reported that the senior gift to the Oak Ridge High School, from the class of 2013, was a water bottle refilling station to discourage the use of disposable plastic bottles. Ms. Deni Sobek, who teaches AP Environmental Sciences, had encouraged this project. The first refilling station has been installed next to a water fountain. It meters "number of plastic bottles saved," and already showed 90 bottles saved. Two more water bottle stations will be available soon.

Unfinished Business

Summary of 2013 Activities and Priorities for 2014

Mr. Kenworthy reported that a draft of the 2013 report (EQAB activities) and the proposed priorities for 2014 had been circulated by email and a revised version was provided in the meeting packet. The board discussed specific items in the 2013 report and 2014 priorities list. Ms. Imperato inquired about EQAB's 2013 letter about reducing mower damage to trees. Mr. Kenworthy reported that he had not received feedback and this item was not discussed in the previous week's meeting he had with Mr. Watson and Community Development staff.

Mr. Kenworthy reported on the meeting he had with City Manager Mark Watson, Kathryn Baldwin, and Athanasia Senecal Lewis on January 2nd. The meeting included discussion about staff support, the Board's goals and activities and EQAB's bylaws. The Board's activities and goals were revised after this meeting.

With regard to the bylaws, Mr. Kenworthy reported that City Manager expressed concerns about the wording of the proposed new paragraph on the quorum requirement, which had been drafted by City legal staff and approved by EQAB after prolonged discussion of the wording. Mr. Kenworthy suggested that EQAB needs to

decide whether to edit the wording and ask for review by legal staff or simply ask for the legal staff to address the topic again. Mr. Kenworthy noted that the City Manager prefers that there be one high school member and an alternate member instead of the current arrangement where EQAB's two student members share a vote (under both the current arrangement and the proposed revisions).

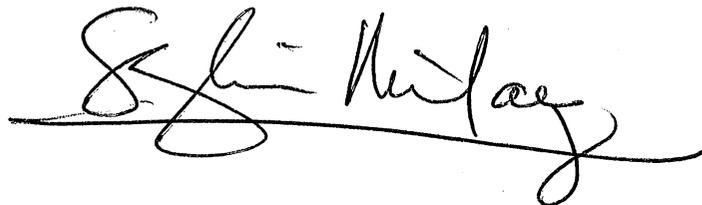
Mr. Kenworthy reported that the environmental review of the CSX rail line is a high priority for city staff due to the need to move quickly toward a Rails-to-Trails project. Ms. Smith provided some background information on documents from the 1980s and 1990s. Mr. Savara expressed his objections to discussing details of this topic during a regular board meeting, which he said should be reserved for items requiring a board vote. The topic may be discussed further at an upcoming work session.

Mr. Kennedy made a motion to submit the letter about the year's activities in 2013 and future plans for 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wood, and the motion carried. Mr. Savara voted against the motion because he objected to the inclusion of the item about electronic sign ordinance in the report of 2013 activities.

January Work Session to be held on January 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Topics for the work session include CSX, CAP progress and ordinance/bylaws suggested as items to include on the agenda.

Adjournments: The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Note: The minutes reflect items on the January 9, 2014 agenda. Topics discussed outside of the agenda are not included in these minutes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kenworthy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.