

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

July 1, 2010

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Municipal Building, Training Room

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order
 - 1. Introduction of EQAB members and recognition of visitors
 - 2. Recognition of Recording Secretary:
 - 3. Amendments to the Agenda
 - 4. Announcements
- B. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting Held June 3, 2010
- C. Action Items Update
- D. Presentations:
- E. High School Representatives (Dora Mcpeak, Austin Morgan)
- F. Report on DOE-related matters (from EQAB Regulatory Oversight Committee and DOE representative David Page)
- G. Communications
- H. City Staff (Athanasia Senecal)
- I. Planning Commission (Chuck Agle)
- J. Special Projects
 - 1. Sustainability (Green) Initiative
 - a) Single Stream/Rewards Programs for Apartment Complexes (Joe Wood)
 - b) Modeling Results for the Climate Action Plan (Athanasia Senecal)
 - c) Schedule for Completion (Athanasia Senecal and Joe Wood)
 - d) New Projects (Life after the Climate Action Plan?)
 - 2. Outdoor Burning (Temporarily Suspended)
 - 3. Secret City Festival Debrief
- K. Reports on External Organizations
 - 1. Local Oversight Committee/Citizens Advisory Panel
 - 2. Keep Anderson County Beautiful
 - 3. Other Projects
- L. Unfinished Business
 - 1.
- M. New Business
 - 1. Replacement for Bruce Nigh's seat on EQAB

N. Adjournment

EQAB Work Session Schedule:

TBD

Noteworthy Public Meetings/Events

cc: City Manager
City Clerk
Amy Fitzgerald
Athanasia Senecal
Laura Davis, Fire Dept.
Steve Byrd, City Engineer
Oak Ridger
News-Sentinel
Oak Ridge Observer

EQAB Minutes for June 3, 2010

Members Present:

Fain
Groton
Imperato
Nelson
Senecal
Stephens
Wood
Morgan

Members Absent:

Agle, excused
Kennedy, excused
Mcpeak, excused
Carter

Guests Present:

Lou Arnold
Kate Groover
Larkin Groover
Elizabeth Peele
Robert Peele
Ellen Smith

Groton called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. A quorum was established. Nelson recognized as recording secretary. The agenda was amended to allow presentations first. Announcements: National Trails Day on June 5. Work on North Ridge Trail Greenbelt.

The minutes for April were approved since EQAB did not meet in May due to lack of a quorum.

Wood passed around the Action Items spreadsheet to be updated.

Elizabeth Peele was invited to give her presentation. She recounted her experience receiving a citation from the city for having grass over 10" high in her yard. For years, she has grown Tennessee daisies in her yard each spring, which are mowed after going to seed, usually by the beginning of July. The Peele's had an administrative review with Tim Ward, who was most considerate and helpful and understood that their yard was not the result of neglect, but the intentional cultivation of a native plant.

Peele asked if EQAB could consider the possibility of “sustainable” or “green” yards that are different from the usual mowed lawn. Could this be part of the report that is being written by EQAB? What mechanisms could be used to determine a special category for this kind of yard?

EQAB will consider this request at the July meeting.

Kate Groover, a representative of the Oak Ridge Revitalization Effort, gave a presentation. She explained their goals and plans for the Grove Center-Jackson Square corridor. She informed of us progress to date, funding mechanisms, and partners involved in the effort. <http://revitalizeoakridge.org>

The new high school representatives, Austin Morgan and Dora Mcpeak, were recognized.

DOE related matters: Smith reported the LOC would like to see true public input on the possible change in plans involving the burial grounds containing unidentified material in Bethel Valley.

Communications: Groton passed around the *Public Involvement News*. EPA is having a webcast June 8 on Green Roofs.

City Staff Report: Senecal reported that recycling has been expanded to include Fire Station # 4, Parks and Recreation, the Library, and the outdoor pool. Cintas is handling secure documents.

A city video is being produced to go on the website by fall.

Next date for the bike/pedestrian board has not been decided.

CMAC , with TPO, is moving forward to create Park & Ride commuter lots along the northwest corridor-Knox/Anderson/Blount counties.

City is in process of obtaining funding for the purchase of two plug-in electric hybrid buses for EHPA. This would include 2 charging stations.

Community Development is interested in form based building codes in Jackson Square and Grove Center. They are pursuing a Sustainable Cities grant.

Planning Commission: Some discussion of temporary storage containers such as Pods and the lack of restrictions on their size. Smith mentioned the new ordinance requiring future construction projects to install lighting that meets Dark Sky criteria. This does not apply to city street lights.

Special Projects: Senecal is continuing her work finalizing the Climate Action Plan. The report should be ready to vote on at the July meeting and present to council in August. Senecal explained that not all actions in the plan can be quantitatively measured, but that qualitative measures will be included. Discussion of possibilities for presentation to the public followed.

As a new project, Senecal asked if any of the EQAB members were interested in a tree inventory project. The city does possess 2 GPS systems which are required for this process. No decision was made.

Senecal is actively pursuing grants on behalf of the city. Discussion followed as to the best practices when applying for grants.

It was decided that EQAB would meet on July 1 as this would not be a conflict with the upcoming holiday.

Earth Day Debrief.

Both Imperato and Nelson helped with the planning and implementation of Earth Day. It was very successful, even though the event was ended early due to storms.

External Organizations:

Imperato reported on the Great American Clean Up and Neighborhood Watch events that are associated with Keep Anderson County Beautiful.

New Business:

The need for volunteers to work at Secret City Festival booth was raised. Nelson can help on Friday with Senecal and Morgan volunteered for Saturday. Senecal will pursue getting volunteers for Saturday.

We need a new member to replace Bruce Nigh.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Joan Nelson

Recording Secretary

June 15, 2010