

EQAB meeting November 4th 2010 minutes

- A.
 - 1. present: James Groton, Robert Kennedy, Fred Stephens, Ben Terpstra, Austin Morgan, Dave Weston, Joan Nelson, Pat Imperato, Patricia Fain, Chuck Agle, Boyd Carter.
 - a. Visitors: Ellen Smith, Anne Garland, Lou Arnold
 - b. Absent: nobody
 - 2. Amendments to agenda: tree cutting issues on greenbelt and greenway.
 - 3. Announcements: no additional
- B. Approval of minutes from Oct 7, 2010: minutes were approved
- C. Action Items update: no updates
- D. Presentation: none scheduled
- E. High School representative: there was a choir contest for arts and music at UT. Ms Sobek wants the EQAB high school reps to help with Environment club. Suggestions include experiencing nature and adding solar panels to high school. Ben has asked for EQAB help on how to get solar panels initiated at the high school. Jimmy suggested that this effort may be better for suited for the library renovation. Ellen Smith gave contact information for the library renovation designers to Ben and Austin. Motion was made for Ben and Austin to co-chair a committee on getting solar panels on the library and it was passed.
- F. Report on DOE-related matters (from EQAB Regulatory Oversight Committee and DOE representative David Page): none, David Page was not here.
- G. Communications: library survey card
- H. City Staff (Athanasia Senecal):
 - a. Still looking for volunteers for Cedar Hill Park.
 - b. Technically tree cutters need a permit to operate in Oak Ridge unless total volume of product is less than 3K a year and other exceptions. You do not need a permit for clearing land.
 - c. A number of greenbelt violations have occurred with tree cutting and the City is seeking restitution.
 - d. Pat made a motion to develop a letter to the city manager to pursue with vigor the prosecution of individuals who cut trees from the greenbelt. If dismissed in city court, there is concern about whether this case can go to trial de novo to higher court.
- I. Planning Commission (Chuck Agle)
 - a. Nothing new.
- J. Special Projects
 - a. Sustainability (Green) initiative.
 - i. Work Session debrief: Oct 25 and Nov 1: Work session went well, but more discussions with city council members are suggested.

- b. New Projects (life after CAP)
 - i. Implementation phase
 - ii. Sustainability issues
- c. Outdoor burning (temp suspended): Robert Kennedy is initiating discussions for city tree and brush waste to fuel the ORNL New biomass fired steam plant.

k. Reports of external organizations

- 1. Local oversight committee/citizens advisory panel
- 2. Keep Anderson county beautiful: national recycles day Nov 13th at Walmart from 10:00 to 2:00.
- 3. Other projects: none

l. Unfinished business

- 1. 2011 EQAB work plan: send comments to Pat Fain and she will incorporate for discussion in December.
- 2. EQAB ordinance and by-laws: Pat Fain and Jimmy will modify with an expected completion date for spring or summer.

M. New Business: none

N. Adjournment

Environmental Quality Advisory Board

Work Plan for FY 2011

- I. EQAB shall recommend policy on all environmental matters that the Board deems necessary or advisable or as requested by the City Council or city manager, including but not limited to:
 - a. Energy conservation and reduction of carbon footprint as adopted by Council
 - b. Environmental safety
 - c. Contamination (long term and short term)
 - d. City environmental ordinances
 - e. Preservation of the natural environment
 - f. Enhancement of the built environment
 - g. Stewardship, preservation and expansion of the greenways, parks and other lands set aside for the use and pleasure of the public
 - h. Recycling, waste reduction and reuse
 - i. City beautification
 - j. Environmental reviews of impact of all new construction and development including residential, commercial and industrial, including adverse environmental impacts
 - k. Environmental impact reviews of all land owned or leased by the city, including zoning, storm water management and grading standards.
 - l. New and amended ordinances as needed to achieve EQAB goals

- II. Provide advice to the City Council on environmental matters brought to the attention of the Board by citizens, including environmental reviews.

- III. Promote public understanding of environmental matters by sponsoring educational opportunities, producing and distributing informational materials and encouraging other public and private efforts

- IV. Fulfill EQAB's role as the city Tree Board. Work with city staff and local groups and nongovernmental organizations to promote and encourage the care, planting and preservation of trees, shrubs and urban forest within the community.

- V. Perform other related work as requested by the City Council or city manager.