

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 30, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: 6:34 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present

Chris Stimpson

Bridger Tomlin, Staff Liaison

Linda Allison

Jennifer Braun Paliszeski

Excused:

Michael Fitch

Jennifer Fugita

Maria Rotunda

Paul Farquhar

Nate Christianson

AGENDA APPROVAL:

A motion was made by **Linda**, seconded by **Jennifer BP**, to accept the meeting's agenda; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by **Linda**, seconded by **Jennifer BP**, to accept the minutes of the July 26th meeting; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment provided.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Report on International Sustainability Conference Task Force**

Maria reported on her participation in the International Sustainability Conference Task Force meeting at the Villars Institute in Switzerland. This annual meeting brings together different teams from around the world dealing with challenges to climate change effects. One lesson from this meeting was that there are no *opportunities* in climate change, other than for us as people to change our behavior. The conference emphasizes student empowerment and awards an 'earth prize' for successful environmental projects.

- **'Waste No More' Initiative**

Chris described the Denver citizen initiative 'Waste No More', in which restaurants, hotels, arenas and multi-unit housing developments of more than 2 units will be required to provide recycling and composting services. **A task force** is charged with assessing implementation and should report in October. It was noted that some smaller facilities

might be unable to find enough space to perform composting and recycling. It was also noted that similar language is in the new Westminster code, but has not been enacted yet.

ACTION: Chris will monitor task force report for possible application to Westminster.

- **Discussion on partnerships/presentations on regional city/county advisory groups**
Bridger raised the topic of working with outside groups of similar nature to EAB. **Linda** and **Chris** noted that we had made contact with such a front range group a few years ago but that Covid had suppressed any further activity. **Maria** proposed a committee for regional outreach, and **Jennifer BP** proposed a meet and greet night as a starting point.

ACTION: Bridger agreed to reach out to staff liaisons to find contacts at other boards.

ACTION: Maria and **Linda** agreed to create a letter for this purpose and review it at the next meeting.

- **Goals**

During a discussion on goals¹ **Maria** proposed a project contest for schools. This was well received. **Jennifer BP** undertook to look for contacts in the school system to move this forward.

ACTION: It would be helpful if we all, in the next few weeks, could consider types of project with an environmental basis that could be presented to schools as a contest.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion on outreach taskforce on rebates and incentives from IRA/BIL**

It was thought that the upcoming Westy Fest would be a good opportunity to give out information on energy-related rebates/incentives as well as describing the various environmental programs offered by the city. **Bridger** undertook to do website pages in support.

- **Report on 2023 Movies in the Park Tabling Events**

It was felt that the Movies in the Park events did not allow us to effectively communicate with people, although the more pragmatic approach initiated by Jennifer BP at the third event was the most successful. **Jennifer BP** offered to price out T-shirts for us to use at

¹ NB: Subsequently, Chris located and circulated the set of goals submitted to the city clerk on Jun 30, 2022. It was noted that the first goal, that of environmental presentations to schools, had aroused so little interest in city council that it had not occurred.

events. This was agreed.

- **Update on the Neighborhood Sustainability Services Program**

Bridger noted that Paul Farquhar had applied, on behalf of his Arrowhead HOA, for the NSSP. **Chris** noted that none of the contacts he had approached for Stratford Lakes, Hyland Green, Countryside or Sheridan Green had responded to his request for interest. **Bridger** announced that he would likely extend the application period to the end of September.

It was thought that NSSP was another possible Westy Fest topic.

STAFF REPORTS AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Preparation work for members to ensure that EAB activities align with Council Strategic Priorities and Sustainability Plan and Charter**

Bridger said he would forward links to appropriate pages on the city website for all members to address these issues.²

- **Skills and Interest survey for EAB members**

We should all take this survey to inform other members and staff of our levels of background and interest. <https://cvent.me/VvrA5b>

- **Salt reduction sensor**

Jennifer BP spoke of a known sensor that, when applied to snowploughs, senses the amount of salt required during snow clearance. It was agreed that a representative would address EAB at the next meeting preparatory to a possible presentation to city council and/or staff.

ACTION: Jennifer BP will organize representative to be at next EAB meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next Meeting: September 27th, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Secretary

² Bridger emailed all members on September 6 with relevant info.

The mission of the Environmental Advisory Board is to:

- Advise City Council and Staff on matters in the community pertaining to solid waste disposal, yard waste recycling, air quality enhancements, hazardous waste management; and storm water quality.
- Make recommendations to City Council and Staff regarding the development of city-wide community and/or neighborhood programs to address long range recycling and solid waste disposal issues; programs to address grass, tree limb, and leaf recycling; programs to address air quality enhancement such as ground-level ozone programs to address hazardous waste recycling and/or disposal and to educate the community and serve in an advisory capacity regarding storm water quality programs.
- Encourage citizen participation in community recycling efforts and promote public education on the environmental benefits of various community programs including curbside recycling, Christmas tree recycling, composting, ground level ozone action alerts, wood burning bans, and household hazardous waste disposal opportunities.
- Annual participation in community outreach programs such as the Earth Day/Arbor Day, Pride Day, school educational talks, and Westy Fest.