

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Athens City Building
Wednesday June 4, 2019 6:30 PM

1. Call to order—Member Sam Crowl called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. Members present include Cliff Hamilton, Paul Logue, Caitlin Garrity, Aimee Delach, Elaine Goetz, and Sam Crowl. Members absent include Stefan Gleissberg and Ed Newman. Quorum was established. 3 seats on the commission are vacant. Guests included Nancy Pierce and Janalee Stock. Guest Jessica Dalzell joined by phone.

2. Disposition of Minutes—the minutes from April and May were reviewed by the commission. Hamilton motioned to approve the minutes for both meetings as submitted. Caitlin Garrity seconded. All voted in favor. The minutes were approved.

3. Next Meeting Date—July 3, 2019- Logue made a motion to cancel the July meeting to do Independence Day and City Council recess. Garrity seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. The next meeting is scheduled for August 7 at 6:30PM.

4. Old Business

A. Commission housekeeping (chair appointment, new members, agendas, etc.)—members discussed the need for candidates and will regroup on this matter in August.

B. America in Bloom—Cliff distributed AIB score sheet. EDC has had a brownfield program that could be included. Home energy audits- upgrade Ohio has done this. HAPCAP and COAD may do this. Paul will check with them to see what they do. School district has done low flow device incentives in the past. HAPCAP and COAD may do this as well.

C. Action items/projects for 2019 and beyond (All)—Caitlin and Kristin Rice have generated some new data. Elaine has updated some 2018. Elaine had some questions regarding reporting columns.

D. Draft biodiversity section for plan (All)— will be discussed in August.

5. New Business

A. Dalzell Thesis presentation—Jessica joined by speakerphone to discuss her thesis on single use bag usage in Athens. This included retailer surveys, resident/student surveys, and consumer observation. Elaine asked about data collection methods. Jessica suggested some observational data on customers going in and out of stores may be the most effective.

B. ReThink Plastics group—Janalee Stock and Nancy Pierce introduced themselves to the commission. They are working on some topics with regarding plastic bags. Janalee is interested in

educational opportunities on reduction of plastics. Nancy is looking at some options for ordinances to reduce the use of single use bags. They are also surveying businesses on uses. Elaine mentioned a few other organizations and researchers who are working on plastic reuse projects that they should connect with.

C. City Waste and Recycling Contract (Crowl)—Sam reported that council will be looking at rebidding in the next 12 months. Sam will be working closely on the evaluation criteria.

6. Announcements and Updates

- A. City Schools—no update.
- B. Wayne NF forest planning (Delach)—no report
- C. Reduced mowing (Gleissberg)—no report

7. Adjournment

Cliff motioned to adjourn the meeting. Elaine seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue