

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Athens City Building
Wednesday November 7, 2018 5:30 PM

1. Call to order: Chairperson Richard Linscott Call to order at 6:40 PM. Members present included Linscott, Jessica Dalzell, Elaine Goetz, Ed Newman, Sam Crawl, Caitlin Garrity, and Stefan Gleissberg. Members absent included Paul Logue, Cliff Hamilton, Kristin Rice, and Aimee Delach. Quorum was established.

2. Disposition of Minutes: The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed by the commissioners. With not additions on corrections noted, Ms. Goetz made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Newman seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of approval.

3. Next Meeting: December 5 2018 at 6:30 PM. There was some discussion regarding the January and December meetings, their relevance and the likelihood of quorum. It was decided that the December meeting would take place, but the January meeting may need to be rescheduled or canceled.

4. Old Business:

A. Sustainability Plan update—Mr. Linscott reported that the final draft is completed and posted on the city’s website.

B. Actionable items for 2019 and beyond--

Ms. Garrity (Food Section): Suggested (1) putting renewed effort towards the 30 Mile Meal Program (2)organizing a fundraiser/community event regarding the Farmer’s Market relocation (3) offering to assist ACENet with survey work they perform at the Farmers Market and (4) putting some effort in to updating/publicizing the community orchard program through CFI.

Mr. Gleissberg (Transportation) pointed to Columbus Road as an area of improvement for the city, specifically regarding (1) pedestrian activity along that corridor and (2) the possibility for a covered bus-stop for this corridor or others. This conversation morphed to ideas outlined in the Bike and Pedestrian Plan ((3) bike and pedestrian corridors). Mr. Crawl discussed the transportation-oriented meetings he attends as a council person, specifically; Sam spoke about the Active Transportation Committee and the Union and Stimson projects. He will keep the committee updated on these projects. He requested to be added to the agenda in future meetings regarding roadway updates.

Ms. Goetz (Greenhouse Gas Emissions) suggested (1) setting up a dashboard (either live or static-yet-up-to-date) on the city website and (2) organizing/sponsoring a [Green Apple Day of Service](#)

Mr. Newman (Solid Waste) suggested (1) organizing a clearing house for all the sustainability-related data that the city gathers, (2) creating/promoting an arboreal awareness program, (including things like identifying/dealing with invasive, how to cultivate useful trees, etc.) (3) trying to effect change regarding

the AEP tree trimming regulations (4) pursuing Pollinator-Friendly designation (5) organizing to increase multi-unit solid waste disposal rates.

Mr. Linscott (Economy) suggested (1) reaching out to the Makerspace for projects/ways we could interface with them to upcycle materials, (2) reaching out to the nascent SID regarding possible sustainability/awareness campaigns in the uptown area and, (3) trying to reignite interest in the 30 Mile Meal program.

There was discussion of Enterprise zones and Opportunity Zones. Materials regarding these concepts and their potential impacts will be distributed via e-mail.

C. Municipal solar deployment—Mr. Logue wasn't present to report on this.

5. New Business: There was no new business.

6. Announcements and Updates: Ms. Dalzell updated the commission regarding her thesis, providing the commission with copies of the surveys which are being distributed. She will follow-up further via e-mail.

7. Adjournment: With all agenda items satisfied and no additional business Mr. Linscott motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Garrity. The meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Linscott.