

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Zoom Conference Call
Wednesday January 6, 2021 6:00 PM

1. Call to order – Chair Aimee Delach called the meeting to order at 6:05PM. She made a land acknowledgement statement. Members present include Aimee Delach, Elaine Goetz, Sam Crowl, Paul Logue, Stefan Gleissberg, and Jasmine Facun. Members absent include Sarah Conley-Bellew, Ed Newman, Megan Almeida, Austin Babrow, and Abby Rodjam. Quorum was established. Guests include Lauren Conner.

2. Disposition of Minutes—the minutes from December 2020 were reviewed by the commission. Sam Crowl motioned to accept the minutes as submitted to the commission. Jasmine Facun seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The minutes were approved.

3. Next Meeting Date – February 3, 2021

4. Old Business

A. Backyard Chickens—There were no updates.

B. Sustainability plan reporting—Paul Logue reported that he and intern Lauren Conner are currently updating the Sustainability Action Plan’s 2018 and 2019 data and will begin collecting 2020 data.

C. Pollinator habitat/planting for solar array— Aimee explained that this plan is for a large solar array near the community center. Aimee expresses the desire for a vegetation management plan to incorporate short native/pollinator plants around the panels to supplement gravel.. Stefan commented on pollinators along the river. Aimee said a grad student is working on a river study this semester. The commission is interested in this research. He also mentioned the area behind the community center. Stefan suggests retraining grounds people that tend to the greenery around the bike path and river bank to preserve pollinator plants by removing invasive species.

D. OEPA EC3 program— Sam and Jasmine attended the 15-minute webinar regarding OEPA EC3. Paul will look at the application process.

5. New Business—There was no new business.

6. Announcements and Updates

A. Wayne National Forest plan-- There was no monthly update this month. Wayne National Forrest does have a virtual way of visiting the forest’s most interesting spots.

B. Sam mentioned a Baileys fundraiser with a free jersey. Linked here:
<https://athensfoundation.networkforgood.com/projects/119490-donate-to-the-baileys-trail-system-and-get-a-free-jersey?fbclid=IwAR0w9SLxDullm2lpNYJm8hBErjgHFPMHcUGeyNsVk0Q6uZylksrdfKZ4boc>

D. Earth Day - Elaine asks commission members if they know of any earth month/day to let her know so that it can be posted on the website.

E. Upcoming summit on local foods - Elaine shares that there will be a summit on institutional procurement of local foods in late March and a save-the-date will be sent out soon.

7. Adjournment-- Stefan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Elaine seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Conner