

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Zoom Conference Call
Wednesday October 7, 2020 6:00 PM

1. Call to order—Member Sarah Conley-Ballew called the meeting to order at 6PM. Members present include Conley-Ballew, Paul Logue, Sam Crowl, Elaine Goetz, Jasmine Facun, Abbey Rodjom, Megan Almeida, Austin Babrow, and Stefan Gleissberg. Chair Aimee Delach reported her absence in advance. Member Ed Newman was absent. Quorum was established. Guests include, Jake Buchanan, Loren Connor, Katelyn Rousch, Sarah rowan, and Austin Greenlee. Logue recorded minutes.

2. Disposition of Minutes—Austin Babrow made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted by Paul Logue. Sam Crowl seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The minutes were approved.

3. Next Meeting Date – November 4, 2020 6:00PM.

4. Old Business

A. Student data collection—Elaine requested that the commission hold working meeting Oct 28 at 6 PM in order to work through this. Paul will schedule via zoom. Commission members are not required to attend.

B. Biodiversity plan section—Sam discussed presenting to council and the appropriate time to do so. Stefan Gleissberg discussed press release on iNaturalist. Sam and Elaine said the university sustainability ambassadors will get involved with this. Paul will distribute the press release this Friday. Sam reported that Chris Fahl has drafted landscape ordinance changes but council hasn't brought them forward for readings yet. Community members are giving feedback. Sam asked for the landscaping ordinance be an agenda item in November.

C. West Side Community Association collaboration—Abbey says there is interest to start this up in the spring.

D. Age Friendly Athens County—Sam and Paul discussed some of the work that has started. Jasmine has joined the sustainability domain group to help with this project. Elaine commented on having sustainability as decision making framework to underlie the plan.

E. Commission Intern—Jasmine has reached out on this and there's a possible intern who can do some species ID for the Hocking River channel.

F. Backyard chickens—Sarah and Megan met and discussed this. They are working on some potential ordinance language. Jasmine and Austin suggested they include some comparisons from NYC and Ann Arbor MI. They are also looking to see how effective those ordinances are and to discuss with council members. Sam recommended they talk with former council rep Kent Butler. Commission members discussed ways to gauge interest in such an initiative.

5. New Business

D. Membership—Abbey reminded the commission that she will be graduating in December. Her seat will need to be filled by another student. Abbey, Sam, and Elaine may have some possible candidates.

6. Announcements and Updates

A. Wayne National Forest plan—Jasmine mentioned some discussions are happening relating to motorized bikes in the Baileys. They are currently not allowed.

Elaine had some info to share on the Green Apple Day of Service project.

<http://greenapple.org/carbon-calculating-day>

7. Adjournment

Sam motioned to adjourn the meeting. Elaine seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue