

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday September 1, 2021 6:00 PM
Athens City Building
8 East Washington Street, 3rd Floor
Athens, OH 45701

1. Call to order Chair Aimee Delach called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Members present include Delach, Sam Crawl, Megan Almeida, Megan Westervelt, Ed Newman, Elaine Goetz, Austin Babrow, Stefan Gleissburg, Jasmine Facun, and Paul Logue. Member Sarah Conley-Bellew reported her absence in advance. Quorum was established. Guests included Alexandra Sines.

2. Disposition of Minutes—The minutes from August 2021 were not presented and were tabled until the October meeting.

3. Next Meeting Date – October 6, 2021

4. Old Business

A. Proposed zoning changes regarding parking requirements—Chairwoman Delach summarized the changes to parking regulations in the zoning code that city council has asked the planning commission to review. She thinks the recommended changes align with the sustainability plan and will support sustainability. She read a letter of support for these changes that she drafted on behalf on the sustainability commission. She asked the commission members to support this letter. Delach made a motion to send this letter to the city planning commission. Austin Babrow seconded the motion. The motion was approved with all members present in favor except Sam Crawl and Paul Logue who both abstained. The motion was approved.

B. Carbon inventory—Logue reported that he and member Conley-Bellew discussed which carbon reporting options are available including the CURB and USEPA tools. The EPA tool is more robust but is extensive but can be updated every three years. Elaine Goetz reported that OU uses a tool that was created to track and compare carbon emissions on college campuses.

C. Backyard Chickens—Megan Almeida reported that the committee is still looking at this item and possible code language on it. Logue commented that the process for code change would likely need to go through planning commission and city council and will take time and might need public hearings.

5. New Business

A. Pollution Prevention Week—September 19-24, 2021.

6. Announcements and Updates There were no announcements and updates.

7. Adjournment—with no remaining business, member Sam Crawl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Member Ed Newman seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15PM

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue