

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Athens City Building
Tuesday September 2, 2014

1. Call to order:

Cliff Hamilton called the order at 5:30 PM. Members present include Cliff Hamilton, Tess Phinney, Meredith Price-Mullins, Ed Newman, and Paul Logue. Jennifer Cochran reported her absence in advance. Richard Linscott and Ben Stuart were guests.

2. Disposition of Minutes:

The minutes from August were reviewed. Meredith moved to approve the minutes. Tess seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 7 at 5:30 PM at City Hall. A work session is scheduled for Thursday Sept 18 at 5:30 PM and Thursday Oct. 2 at 5:30 PM.

4. Old Business

a. Bag Ordinance Review— Questions about Aldi model and if it fits. California passed a bag ban very recently.

b. Commission Membership—2 seats still needs filled. Paul will update city web site with commission membership roll. Council should appoint Richard at the next committee meeting. Richard has provided a brief bio to Paul to submit to Council

5. New Business

a. Ben Stuart—Ben was the co-chair of OU's sustainability plan committee. OU started a sustainability plan in 2009 on a request from President McDavis. Committee included students, staff, and faculty members. Ed served on this committee. There were 2 charges—sustainability plan and climate action plan. Those are separate initiatives but inform the each other with sustainability plan completed first. The public process was used to set goals, objectives, and strategies. Suggested strategies can inform the plan. Project was expanded to include community to garner more support, ideas, and transparency. OU hosted an open forum to get input. Asked participants to suggest goals, objectives, and strategies and then vote on them. About 250-300 ideas came from this process. The committee identified three themes that were used to guide the document-- Justice, Stewardship, and Citizenship. The 300 ideas were boiled down to 35 items. 35 items typically crossed over among the three themes. Working groups were created to assist with this and develop strategies better. Plan includes accessible near term targets and long term goals. Near term goals give something to work on now and avoid passing the buck. OU was able to tap into some state initiatives to help meet goals. Climate Action Plan focused on

greenhouse gas reductions and was an internal process with committees for specific topics—transportation, energy efficiency, infrastructure, etc. Michelle Morrone was active with the CAP. Oversight of implementation was handed off to EECC. Three revisions have occurred so far.

6. Assignments for next meeting

a. Work session

7. Adjournment

Paul motioned, Cliff seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.