

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Athens City Building
Tuesday November 4, 2014

1. Call to order:

Cliff Hamilton called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Members present include Cliff, Tess Phinney, Paul Logue, Jennifer Cochran, Emily Carnahan, Meredith Price-Mullins and Mat Roberts. Richard Linscott and Ed Newman reported their absence in advance.

2. Disposition of Minutes:

The minutes from October 7, 2014 were read. No corrections were noted. Meredith motioned to approve the minutes. Jennifer seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 4, 2014 at 5:30 PM at City Hall. Paul will check city calendar.

4. Old Business

a. Sustainability/Climate action plan- discussion on need for a survey—gather demographic data, publish results from public meeting, behavior questions. There will be a working meeting on Wednesday November 19 at 5:30 PM at Cliff's office to discuss this in more detail.

The commission discussed the public meeting and the desire to hear from more community members who couldn't make the meeting. Wrap up should have been done at end. Benchmarks should be established for key issues—carbon footprint, waste stream, etc.

Commission members should review the spreadsheet, identify goals and strategies, and come up with themes, linkages etc.

b. Plastic bag ordinance—Draft ordinance language is being reviewed by the city law director's office. Jennifer has provided a draft letter of support. She expects this to be brought forward by a council committee of the whole. The Sustainability FB page will be used to post some facts on these bags. The commission discussed the letter of support and the ordinance. Meredith motioned to approve the letter of support. Emily seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0. Cliff will sign a copy of the letter as Chair and it will be forwarded to Debbie Walker, clerk of council.

5. New Business

a. non-therapeutic antibiotics—Athens City Council has received several letters from citizens asking them to sign on to this resolution drafted by Food and Water Watch. The resolution relates to non-

therapeutic antibiotics being used in the livestock industry. Council has asked the commission to review and provide feedback. Emily asked if this would impact local farmers. Mat made a motion to recommend that council adopt this resolution. Meredith seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried 7-0.

b. Jennifer met with an OU class regarding bicycling issues and will discuss this in more detail at the working session.

6. Adjournment

Meredith motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

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