

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Athens City Hall, First Floor Conference Room
Wednesday, February 6, 2013

A regular meeting of the Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission was held in the first floor conference room at Athens City Hall at 5:30 PM on February 6, 2013.

1. Call to Order

Cliff Hamilton called the meeting to order at 5:41. Members present include Cliff Hamilton, Ed Newman, Markie Miller, Paul Logue and Bernhard Debatin. Liz Rhodes and Chris Fahl confirmed their absences in advance. No guests were present.

2. Disposition of Minutes

No changes were made. Ed moved to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2013 regular meeting. Bernhard seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting Date

Cliff will send out a Doodle to determine next meeting date by 2/13.

4. Old Business

- a. Recycling—see new business
- b. Web site-- Paul Logue will confirm with city staff regarding site.
- c. Sustainability definition—adding “to sustainability” after *commitment* in second sentence.

Cliff motioned to approve the definition. Bernhard seconded, all voted in favor.

5. New Business

a. Waste District/MRF Letter—Cliff and Ed attended a solid waste district public meeting on a feasibility study regarding a materials recycling facility (MRF) on 2/4/13. OEPA is telling district that something needs to happen to get higher recycling rates in district and a MRF is recommended. Current recycling center is limited in size and is located in a wellhead protection area. Location for a MRF has not been addressed yet. A new MRF system would be single or dual stream and lend itself to accepting more materials. Options included upgrading a new site in the district or creating a transfer facility and hauling out of district. Discussions on a MRF also center on management by a public or for-profit entity. The existing recycling system is managed by a public organization.

Discussion on draft MRF letter—Bernard suggested added something on reduction of creation of waste/consumption. City-wide compost measures as well. Letter will be sent to Mayor and Council and cc'd to County Commissioners and Athens/Hocking Recycling. Cliff will incorporate recommended changes, forward to commission by email and then distribute.

b. Ed's document on possible directions for this commission starting with some low hanging fruit. Ed and Paul will investigate applying for recycling bin grant from Coke. Bernhard suggested adding air quality as another possible topic to tackle.

6. Assignments for Next Meeting

Cliff recommended that all review Ed's document and respond with comments by Feb 20.

7. Adjournment

Bernhard motioned to adjourn. Ed seconded. All voted aye.