

Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Athens City Hall, First Floor Conference Room  
Wednesday, June 5, 2013

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A regular meeting of the Athens City Environment and Sustainability Commission was held in the first floor conference room at Athens City Hall at 5:15 PM on June 5, 2013.

1. Call to Order

Cliff Hamilton called the meeting to order at 5:40. Members present include Cliff Hamilton, Liz Rhodes, Lori Burchett, Ed Newman, and Paul Logue. Chris Fahl and Markie Miller were absent.

Guests present include Christine Hughes, owner of Village Bakery.

2. Disposition of Minutes

Minutes from May 2013 were distributed. Ed motioned to approve the minutes. Lori seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

3. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting date is July 10, 2013, 5:15 PM at City Hall.

4. Introductions

Members of the commission introduced themselves to Lori and summed up their interests in environmental and sustainability issues. Lori is the Athens County planner and a city resident. She is interested in sustainability, storm water runoff, and impervious surface issues among other issues. There was a general discussion on the role of the commission with policy recommendations to council and administration. Ed discussed solid waste issues and the possibility of making recommendations to the city on that topic. Lori discussed some key points in the county plan with environmental issues. County plan is guidelines, suggestions, and project based. County doesn't have land use regulations in the same way the city may. Lori will pull out some key topics and provide them to the commission. Paul will pull out key areas of the city's plan.

5. Old Business

- a. website has been registered by Cliff—athensfortomorrow.org
- b. Council presentation: Cliff—will go to Council later this month. Paul will check with Clerk of Council about adding to agenda.

6. New Business

- a. Roundtable on key issues—solid waste, drinking water protection, sanitary and storm system, wellhead, and public education on issues. Top 3—public education, water issues, solid waste management and recycling.

- b. Christine Hughes served on the city's comprehensive plan advisory commission. She says people in community are interested in volunteering on climate change. She has been brainstorming with other citizens and wants to start a "citizen's climate conservation corps". Is interested in working with commission on this concept. Christine also asked about possibility of setting up a funding stream for sustainability implementation, salaried sustainability coordinator.
- c. Ed discussed gypsy moth spraying on south side.

#### 7. Assignments for next meeting

- a. Cliff will put together a presentation for Council and get on committee schedule. There will be work session on 6/11 at 5:15 at 49 Factory Street—OU facilities office. Paul will help with Council agenda. 10 minute PowerPoint is goal.
- b. Lori will pull out some key topics from the county plan and provide them to the commission. Paul will pull out key areas of the city's plan.

#### 8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM