



**City of Bloomington  
Environmental Commission**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, 21 October 2010, 7:00 pm  
City Hall – McCloskey Room, 401 North Morton Street

**Attending:** Meg Hathaway (Intern), Diane Henshel, Kriste Lindberg, Mike Litwin, Beth Smith, Linda Thompson (Staff), Mike Tosick, Keith Vogelsang, Jess Vogt (Intern)  
**Absent:** Phaedra Pezzullo, Regina DiLamore (telephoned in for Toxics Report), Andrea Need

I. Introductions:

A. Meeting called to order at 7:28pm due to technical difficulties in setting up equipment.

II. Announcements:

- A. Next Environmental Commission meeting: Thurs, Nov 18, 2010, 7pm, McCloskey Room
- B. Next Planning Committee meetings: Oct 27, Nov 18, 4pm, Planning Dept
- C. Next Tree Commission, TBA, 9:30am, Rose Hill Cemetery Office

III. Approval of September meeting minutes:

- A. Diane Henshel motioned to approve September minutes.
- B. Beth Smith seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Minutes approved.

IV. Public Comment:

A. A man from the public was here to ask questions about Lake Monroe. First, he would like to know who to contact about trash dams in the lake and how one would go about cleaning these up. Second, he is concerned about something he heard about PCBs leaking into our water supply. Diane Henshel and Linda Thompson dispelled this rumor, indicating that there is absolutely no concern about PCBs leaking into Lake Monroe. There are PCBs probably in Clear Creek, and Henshel doesn't recommend consuming fish from this body of water. However, Lake Monroe is frequently tested, and there are no PCBs there. Henshel referred the man to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources – the party in charge of Lake Monroe – with any concerns about this.

V. Guest Speaker: Spencer Goehl, EcoLogic LLC: Invasive Plant Species in Bloomington

- A. Spencer Goehl from EcoLogic, LLC, a local ecological restoration company, was present at the meeting to give a presentation on invasive plant species in Bloomington. His main message was that invasive species cause both environmental and economic damage and pose a significant risk to the City of Bloomington's natural and recreational assets.
- B. Goehl recommends 5 main actions that the City of Bloomington, and the Parks Department in particular, take: 1) Create a strategic plan, including action steps, dedicated to the removal and management of invasive species; 2) Create an annual report on the status of invasive species and invasive species management in Bloomington; 3) Begin to use integrated pest management (IPM) strategies in the management of invasive species; 4) Take a more active

- role in funding and grant seeking opportunities in order to support invasive species management; and, 5) Implement the action steps in the strategic plan and annual report in the management of invasive species.
- C. Goehl suggests that the EC increase pressure on the Parks Department to proactively manage invasive species (e.g. by early detection and rapid response strategies) before they become too prevalent and eradication becomes impossible.
  - D. Discussions with the EC that followed Goehl's presentation included the following suggestions:
    - i. Mike Tosick suggests that the management of invasive species could be incorporated in to future greenspace reports, and that in this way greenspace assessments might include quality as well as quantity measures.
    - ii. Diane Henshel suggests that invasive species be somehow included in the EC's Bloomington Environmental Quality Indicators (BEQI) report and indicators list.
    - iii. Kriste Lindberg indicates her interest in doing more with eradication of and education about invasive species through the Citizen Scientist program.

## VI. Reports:

- A. Planning Committee and Senior Environmental Planner:
  - i. Linda Thompson reports on a single petition on the Plan Commission agenda: the McDoel Station site at Patterson and Morton.
    - 1. This site is currently almost all paved. The petitioners are proposing a single commercial building with possibly a restaurant on the bottom and patio, as well as some apartment buildings. This coming hearing is the first of two required hearings, because this proposal is an amendment to the Thompson PUD. Currently, mixed use isn't allowed on the development, so this proposal requires a change in the PUD requirements.
    - 2. Planning Department will likely back this amendment because the site appears to be a nice transition between the adjacent residential neighborhood and the existing commercial developments in the Thompson PUD.
    - 3. Their current landscape plan is not good and Linda Thompson is waiting on the petitioners to give her a new landscape plan before reviewing it comprehensively.
    - 4. Thirty percent of the site is in the floodplain (the commercial building is on this portion of the site), and according to the Thompson PUD agreement, the developers can basically ignore all floodplain areas except those near Clear Creek. Linda Thompson doesn't think there is anything the EC can do about this, since this was defined when the PUD was created.
  - ii. Linda Thompson also reported on a second item on the Plan Commission agenda: an amendment to the present floodplain ordinance to cite the newest set of FEMA maps that become effective in December 17. This update only changes citations to reflect the new maps, and is required by federal law.
  - iii. Additionally, Andrea Need is resigning from the EC, and thus a new member to the ECPC is needed. It is decided that the EC should wait until we have new members to the EC soon, and then query again for those interested in being on the ECPC.
- B. Conditions of Approval project:
  - i. Jess Vogt is continuing her work on this project. She is beginning the GIS component of the project for her GIS course, with a partner, Joel Grant, a fellow SPEA student and present Bloomington Parks department intern. The ultimate goal of this project is to both help Linda Thompson, Senior Environmental Planner, with enforcement of

environmental conditions for developments as well as to inform ECPC recommendations on developments to the Plan Commission. If EC members have specific spatial questions they'd like Vogt and Grant to investigate as part of this project, or questions about the project, please email these to Vogt ([vogtj@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:vogtj@bloomington.in.gov)). She will keep the EC abreast of developments in this project.

C. Toxics report:

- i. Regina DiLavore was telephoned in for this segment of the meeting.
- ii. Meg Hathaway reports that she is continuing to move along on this project and has encountered no major issues as of yet. She has tracked down the sources for the Toxic Release Inventory database. She will be getting assistance from Diane Henshel and Regina DiLavore on the risk assessment components of the report. Hathaway has a question on whether or not to include a category of toxics called Disp Non Metals, where it is certain whether these toxics stay in Bloomington or are released into the environment. It is decided that she will just focus on air and water emissions from the TRI report.
- iii. The timeline for Hathaway's report is as follows: The report will be voted on at the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, so Hathaway will provide the Toxics Committee with a preliminary draft next week (week of Oct 31-Nov 6) and the entire EC with a draft for comments by late the following week (week of Nov 7-12).

D. Cafeteria waste reduction and styrene briefing:

- i. Jess Vogt has sent around two items via email prior to the meeting: a summary of her research on the health effects of styrene as well as a polystyrene container environmental fact sheet. Her research on the health effects of styrene were not convincing as to the documented effects of styrene on human health via ingestion from consumption of foods held in styrene containers. She has received several responses from EC members agreeing with her assessment given the research summary. The polystyrene container fact sheet Vogt developed as an alternative to the health briefing commissioned at the last meeting. This fact sheet is aimed at citizens as well as those who manage cafeterias, restaurants, etc., and is meant to be an accessible summary of the environmental waste caused by use of Styrofoam containers as well as things people can do to reduce use of these containers.
- ii. Beth Smith has spent extensive time discussing the polystyrene container waste issue with her principal at Childs', Chris Finley. The letter shown at the last meeting developed by the Childs' PTO will be sent tomorrow to Hattie Johnson. Smith reports that her work has indicated that another letter about container use from a waste and cost standpoint from the EC to MCCSC Food Service/Hattie Johnson would reinforce the PTO letter and hopefully result in a reduction or discontinuation in use of polystyrene containers. Smith will begin drafting this letter.

E. Invasive species on City property: No update on this issue; the EC is still waiting on a response from Steve Cotter and the Parks Department about the letter.

F. Plastic bag ordinance options: No update on this issue; the EC is still waiting on a response from City Council regarding the list of ordinance options presented to them.

G. Tree Preservation Ordinance Committee: No update on this issue; Mike Litwin has not heard back yet from Tom Micuda regarding a meeting date and time. There has been no meeting of this committee yet.

H. Tree Commission: Because of Mike Tosick's new job, he has been forced to resign from his position as EC Tree Commission liaison, and so there is an opening for this position. No current members are able to fill this position, given the morning meeting time of the Tree

Commission; after new EC members are recruited, Mike Tosick will query again for interest and availability to fill this position.

- I. Deer Task Force: Mike Litwin attended the second Deer Task Force meeting immediately prior to this EC meeting. Most of the meeting, Litwin reports, was a presentation by the DNR on deer control methods. DNR approves three methods for dealing with overgrown deer populations (sharp shooting, trapping and euthanization, and hunting by archery). Another issue discussed by the DNR representative was lime disease in deer – however, reducing the deer population does not reduce or get rid of the risk of lime disease.

VII. New Business:

- A. Phone book opt-out program: Mike Tosick reports that Seattle, OR, has just passed an ordinance that allows residents to opt-out of receiving a phone book from the phone companies and mandating publishers to recycle phone books. Tosick suggests that this could be an item to add to our ordinance change list.

VIII. Old Business:

- A. New EC members: With Andrea Need's resignation, we have 8 current members of the EC. Linda Thompson reports that we now have a couple of applicants to the EC; however, during the last couple of council meetings, they haven't appointed anyone to the EC so Thompson has contacted the Mayor to ask about appointing one or more of these applicants to the EC. Thompson has also gone through the list of applicants to BCOS and contacted those with environmental interests to ask them if they are interested in applying to the EC. Thompson also mentions that it would be nice for someone to write up a paragraph description of the EC – something that goes beyond the mission statement – that aims to recruit new members. This would be something we can post on our website as well as send to the BCOS listserv.
- B. Listserv: A link to the BCOS listserv is on the EC website.
- C. Simply Living Fair: Kriste Lindberg reports on her time spent tabling the Simply Living Fair. She reports that it went well overall and a lot of people came by and picked up EC and Lawns for Life handouts as well as signed up for Neighborhood Greening. Lindberg is unsure this will be worth doing in the future because it is a lot of time and somewhat feels like “preaching to the choir.”

IX. Commissioner Announcements:

- A. Commissioner announcements will be emailed to the EC because of a lack of time to discuss these issues.
- B. Diane Henshel queries the EC about switching the EC meeting time to another day of the week next school term (January through April) because she and Meg Hathaway have class on Thursday evenings. Linda Thompson thinks this is legally possibly (there are no ordinance regulations blocking moving meeting times). EC members should look at their schedule for next spring before the next meeting and then we can discuss possibly moving the meeting time at the next meeting.

X. Adjournment:

- A. Mike Litwin moves to adjourn the meeting.
- B. Kieth Vogelsang seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 9:43pm.



**City of Bloomington  
Environmental Commission**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, 23 September 2010, 7:00 pm  
City Hall – McCloskey Room, 401 North Morton Street

**Attending:** Regina DiLavore, Kriste Lindberg, Diane Henshel, Meg Hathaway (Intern),  
Michael Litwin, Phaedra Pezzullo (Vice-chair), Beth Smith, Jess Vogt (Intern)  
**Absent:** Linda Thompson (Staff), Keith Vogelsang, Andrea Need, Mike Tosick

### I. Introduction:

- A. Meg Hathaway is the new SPEA Service Corps Fellow. She has a background in anthropology and biology and will be doing a dual degree at SPEA getting a Master's of Public Affairs and Master's of Science in Environmental Science, concentrating in water resources and environmental management and policy.

### II. Announcements:

- A. Next Environmental Commission meeting: Thursday, Oct. 21st, 7pm, McCloskey Room
- B. Next Planning Committee meetings: Sept 29<sup>th</sup>, Oct 14<sup>th</sup>, 4pm, Planning Dept.
- C. Next Tree Commission meeting: Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am, Rose Hill Office
- D. Kriste Lindberg will be 1 hr late this month and next because she is doing Citizen's Academy

### III. Approval of August minutes:

- A. No questions or concerns.
- B. Mike Litwin moves to approve the August minutes.
- C. Regina DiLavore seconds.
- D. Motion passes (none abstain).

### IV. Public Comment:

- A. Joyce Williams, Engineering Dept: She is here in case the EC has any questions for the Engineering Dept. There are no questions.
- B. There were also high school students observing the meeting as homework for a Government class.

### V. Reports:

- A. Planning Committee: Mike Litwin reports briefly in lieu of Linda Thompson's absence.
  - i. A parcel of the Thompson PUD is requesting an amendment to put in a mixed-use development in place of what was supposed to be an industrial development. They are partially in the floodplain, but they were approved to do this under the original plan, so there is no change.
  - ii. The only objectionable things are that their landscaping plan needs some changes and they are using no green building features at present.

- iii. Diane Henshel raises some concern about where housing might be in a mixed-use development. If it is located directly in the floodplain, there might be some concern about the risk of flooding, because residential areas are much more sensitive to flooding than industrial would be.
  1. Litwin has not seen a site plan at present and so cannot answer this question.
- iv. There are no other new developments, just 4 others that have come before the EC previously and so need no discussion.

B. Intern updates:

- i. Ordinance change update:

1. Cafeteria waste:

- a. Beth Smith met with Linda Dodds, MCCSC Food Service assistant coordinator (because Hattie Johnson, Food Services Director, with whom the meeting was originally scheduled was out of town), and Elisa Pokral, Educational Outreach Coordinator for Monroe County Solid Waste Management District Smith reports that containers are used in the cafeteria to pre-scoop food in order to get kids through the lunch in time and allow kids who are on free or reduced-price lunches time to eat the food they need. MCCSC Food Service is one of the few profitable school lunch operations in the state, so there is little cost-saving motivation to reduce waste or use of Styrofoam. However, containers should only be used to pre-scoop and not used when kids are going through the line, which is happening at Childs.
    - b. Smith reports that Childs PTO Co-Presidents, Trisha Doyle and Michelle Cutshall, have drafted a letter to Hattie Johnson about the cafeteria waste issue from the PTO perspective. This letter draws on the example of waste reduction at Roger/Binford school cafeteria and states that the Childs PTO would like to advocate for the same change at their school. This letter has been approved by Chris Finley, Childs Principal, but has not gone to Hattie Johnson/MCCSC Food Service yet, but will likely be released in the next week or so.
    - c. Diane Henshel raises concern about the scooping of hot food into Styrofoam or other plastic containers, which introduces neuro-toxic chemicals (styrene) into the hot food.
    - d. Beth Smith states that maybe a one-pager from the EC regarding the human health and environmental impacts of Styrofoam containers (and hot food in these containers) would be helpful as additional information to provide the school food service (as a complement to the PTO's letter).
    - e. Jess Vogt will draft this one-page statement and circulate to Beth Smith, Regina DiLavore, Diane Henshel, and Phaedra Pezzullo and Cc, Linda Thompson in the next week (by October 1).
    - f. The EC could then send this one-page statement to Hattie Johnson and MCCSC Food Service shortly after they receive the PTO letter.
    - g. Phaedra Pezzullo suggests that after we give this information to MCCSC Food Service, we could provide it to restaurants that use Styrofoam containers as well, as a public education campaign.

- h. Phaedra Pezzullo calls for a vote from the EC of those in favor of Jess Vogt drafting a fact sheet on Styrofoam to circulate to the EC. Motion passes with none opposed.
  - 2. Invasive Species on City Property:
    - a. No update. We are still waiting to hear back from Steve Cotter/Lee Huss in Parks regarding the letter.
  - 3. Plastic Bags Options:
    - a. No update. Phaedra Pezzullo gave the latest list of ordinance options prepared by Jess Vogt to City Councilmembers Steve Volan and Dave Rollo for their response, but has not heard back.
- ii. Conditions of Approval Project: Jess Vogt reported on the project she has inherited from Trevor Hagerdorn, past SPEA Service Corps Fellow.
  - 1. Vogt has updated and reorganized Hagerdorn's conditions of approval database to include all the conditions (environmental and otherwise) placed on developments that are approved by the Plan Commission and archived in the Plan Commission Minutes binders. These conditions come from several places, including the site plan, petitioner's statement, Planning Dept. staff report, and official PC minutes.
  - 2. The way the database is organized now allows someone to go in and look up conditions by the type of condition, by development, by request made to the plan commission, by date, etc., which also enables a variety of ways that the database might be summarized or queried, depending on what the EC or others are interested in at any given time.
  - 3. Vogt has put in the conditions/development from 2008-2009 and the first half of 2007 currently, and will continue to put in conditions/developments (as time permits between working on ordinance change and misc. projects as requested) working backwards to 2004 or 2005, depending on the number of conditions that accumulate by then.
  - 4. The purpose of this project is to enable better enforcement and follow-up with developers, particularly with environmental conditions of approval, to enable creation of a track record on developers and improve City organizational memory with regard to this, and to help the EC make better recommendations to the Plan Commission for environmental conditions to place on developments.
  - 5. Analytical possibilities with this project include: attaching conditions of approval to developments in a GIS database; collecting more biophysical characteristics (canopy cover, greenspace, pervious surfaces) about these developments as these characteristics might be influenced by the conditions placed on this development; investigating in greater detail the reasons behind follow-through (or not) by developers on conditions; analyzing the differences between pre- and post-2009 UDO amendments investigating what the commonly not followed-up on conditions are; and, many other possibilities.
  - 6. There is general interest among EC members (including Vogt, Regina DiLavore, Diane Henshel, Meg Hathaway and others) of arranging a trip with Linda Thompson to a development to see what types of things.
  - 7. Henshel would like to see a developer rating system for developments created from this database.
  - 8. Mike Litwin would like to see erosion control measures investigated in detail.

9. Assessing follow-through and the experiences behind these conditions will be challenging, both because it will be time consuming to follow-up on developments.
  - a. The EC needs to learn more about this Planning Department's process for enforcement at this level.
  - b. Phaedra Pezzullo suggests that there are two strategies for this: 1) to petition City Council for more money to actually make the follow-through another internship position or summer job for someone to go check on each condition for each development, or 2) to possibly ask IU classes (Burney Fischer's Urban Forest Management, Heather Reynold's Urban Ecology, or SPEA V506 Statistics classes) to investigate the follow-through on these conditions and/or analysis of the database as part of a class project.
  - c. Jess Vogt will follow-up with these professors in the next month and see if they might be interested by drafting a preliminary sketch of what a class project might look like.
  
- iii. Toxic's Report: Meg Hathaway, the new SPEA Service Corps Fellow, is taking over this project from Brian Wright, who has completed his work for the EC.
  1. Hathaway had a meeting recently with Diane Henshel, Brian Wright, and Linda Thompson to discuss the project and moving forward with the report.
  2. Hathaway would like the EC to look over Wright's databases, which she has emailed to us all, and give her feedback as to what might be most relevant, pertinent and interesting for a report for City Council.
  3. There is mild concern that some of this information might be reasonably sensitive for a public document, but it is all public information, so the EC feels that it should be made public, despite these concerns.
  4. Hathaway raises concern about singling out dry cleaners for inclusion in the report, but not businesses such as Home Depot, Lowe's, Agricultural Coop, etc., that might also sell pesticides and agricultural chemicals. Diane Henshel says that these stores should also be included, and recommends that Hathaway contact them to ask for the volume of a variety of chemicals that they would have. If these businesses will not voluntary share this information, the EC should arrange to split up the locations and chemicals to check for and to go look at the shelves.
  5. Phaedra Pezzullo raises concern that all of the lists in Wright's original databases do not have sources listed. Hathaway will contact Wright (and Cc Diane Henshel) to get these sources ASAP, because they are very important for anything the EC submits to City Council.
  6. This project would be appropriate for GIS applications, and, as Hathaway is in the Vector GIS class at SPEA this term, she will attempt to recruit classmates to create as many layers as possible from the toxics databases in ArcGIS.
  7. The report (from the outline developed last winter by the EC Toxics Committee) for this toxics project is due to City Council by early December, and will be accompanied by a brief presentation of the findings by Hathaway in front of City Council. A draft of the report should be submitted to the EC for review by October, so that commissioners can review and provide feedback before November, and then a presentation can be prepared by early December.

8. Follow-up/future issues of concern for this project include a list of other industries/sites of interest (e.g. local suppliers of pesticides, if the Home Depot/Lowe's shelf search does not occur this fall due to time constraints, or house cleaning businesses), and a list of future activities/outreach related to toxics (including a future risk assessment or plan).
  9. Regina DiLavore has a list of general background sources that she and Mary Ruhter, former ECom, put together last fall, which she will forward to Meg Hathaway for her use.
  10. Follow-up meeting: Hathaway will be meeting Diane Henshel and Regina DiLavore at Henshel's office (SPEA 357) on Thursday, Sept. 30, 12:45-1:45pm.
- C. Tree Preservation Ordinance Committee: Mike Litwin reports that the meeting has been pushed back until October by Tom Micuda, Director of City Planning.
- D. Lawns 4 Life Report: They are continuing to table at the Farmer's Market on Saturday morning. Diane Jung has applied to membership on the EC and the EC will be pursuing this.

#### VI. New Business:

- A. South Central Regional Sewer District member recommendations: The EC has been directly asked by the Mayor if there is any interest in membership in this. An email soliciting the EC for membership interest was circulated, but there were no responses to this email, so it is assumed there is no interest. The EC does not know anyone external to the commission who might be interested in this type of thing at this time, either.

#### VII. Old Business:

- A. EC Listserv:
- i. Phaedra Pezzullo has contacted Jacqui Bauer, City Sustainability Coordinator, who is in charge of the City's sustainability listserv, and Bauer has agreed to send out anything the EC wants sent as long as it is relevant to both the EC and the Commission on Sustainability. Send anything relevant to Bauer at [bauerj@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:bauerj@bloomington.in.gov).
  - ii. Jess Vogt will follow up with Nate Nickel, City Planner in charge of the EC website, to have a link to the sustainability listserv placed on the EC website.
- B. Recruiting new EC members:
- i. Diane Jung has submitted an application and Linda Thompson is following up to obtain Jung's application.
  - ii. Emilie Rex, IU Office of Sustainability, Assistant Director of Sustainability, is possibly in the works. Diane Henshel will continue conversations with Rex.
  - iii. Beth Smith is trying to recruit Carolyn Shaw, wife of Joe Shaw, professor at SPEA, to the EC. She will keep the commission updated on her progress.
  - iv. If anyone has any suggestions or knows that someone has submitted an application, please contact Phaedra Pezzullo, Mike Tosick, and Linda Thompson so they can follow-up with this individual.
- C. 350.org International Day of Work 10-10-10: Diane Henshel has not had a chance to formally follow-up or recruit any interest in the project specifically on behalf of the EC. However, the IU Office of Sustainability and Volunteers in Sustainability are having a day of work on 10-9-10 (because they are having a student summit with Majora Carter on 10-10-10), and SIREN is also organizing something for 10-10-10. At this point, it seems that the EC should just let this event happen through these avenues, as the date is rapidly approaching and time is short.

- D. New EC representative to the Tree Commission: Meetings occur in the morning on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. It appears that no EC members are actively interested and able to attend these meetings, so this should be kept in mind as future EC members are recruited, that maybe someone might be interested in a seat on the Tree Commission as an EC member.
- E. Simply Living Fair: Kriste Lindberg is putting together a booth and has EC literature (natural landscaping materials and Lawns for Life brochures/signs). She will be tabling 9am-5pm on Saturday, Sept 25, on behalf of the EC and the Parks & Recreation Department Neighborhood Greening project. Diane Jung, with L4L, will also be joining this table.

VIII. Commissioner Announcements:

A. Mike Litwin:

- i. Notes that the cafeteria waste project should be moved from an ordinance change project to its own committee future agenda.
- ii. Reports that his neighborhood (on Maxwell Lane, near campus) has been invaded by the Asian Tiger Mosquito, an invasive species that is smaller, quicker than native mosquitoes, and bites at all times of day. These bugs really change what it means to be outside. He is unsure about the potential of these insects to be a disease vector and has not seen any information about their distribution locally. Litwin would like any suggestions people may have for fairly large-scale, non-toxic ways of getting rid of them in one's yard. Citronella candles work, but only for small areas. Diane Henschel recommends Armor Repellant or olive oil for a skin repellant. Litwin will also consult Mark Lame, pest expert at SPEA, for possible solutions.
- iii. Litwin has tried to follow-up on the activity of the Deer Task Force, to no avail so far, but he will continue to try to contact various parties.

IX. Adjournment:

- A. Diane Henschel moves to adjourn the meeting.
- B. Kriste Lindberg seconds.
- C. Motion passes.
- D. Meeting adjourned 8:50pm.



**City of Bloomington  
Environmental Commission**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, 18 February 2010, 7:00 pm  
City Hall – McCloskey Room  
401 North Morton Street

**Attending:** Regina DiLavore, Trevor Hagedorn (intern), Diane Henshel, Kriste Lindberg, Michael Litwin, Andrea Need, Mike Tosick (Chair), Linda Thompson (staff), Keith Vogelsang,

**Absent:** Jacqui Bauer, Phaedra Pezzullo, Mary Ruhter

**Visiting:** Matt Laherety (BCOS), Leif Hagman (I.U. Geography),  
Justin Wykoff (Manager of Engineering Services)

### I. Introductions:

A. New EC member, Diane Henshel:

1. Henshel is a professor at the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA). Her professional/research interests are as follows: sub-lethal health effects of environmental pollutants, especially pollutant effects on the developing organism, including the effects of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs) and related congeners on the developing nervous system of birds exposed in the wild and under controlled laboratory conditions.

B. EC member status updates:

1. Heather Reynolds is not seeking reappointment to the EC for the 2010 year.
2. Jacqui Bauer will be in Japan on sabbatical leave.
3. Phaedra Pezzullo will be returning to the EC next month after the conclusion of her maternity leave.
4. Two EC member positions remain vacant.

### II. Announcements:

A. Next Environmental Commission meeting: Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, McCloskey Room

B. Next Planning Committee meetings: Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:00, Planning Dept.

C. Upcoming EC-related meetings:

1. Green Building Committee meeting: February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30 pm, location TBD
2. Earth Week Activity Committee (logo): TBD
3. MPO CAC: Wed., February 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm. McCloskey room (invitation from Jack Baker)
4. Tree Commission: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am, Rose Hill Cemetery office

D. Community Orchard public meeting: February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30 pm, Council Chambers

1. Amy Countryman will be at the March EC meeting to answer questions related to the Community Orchard.

- E. Change of date for the April EC meeting:
  - 1. Mike Tosick motions to move the April meeting date from April 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 29<sup>th</sup> (7:00 pm in the McCloskey Room) to avoid overlapping with Earth Week related activities.
  - 2. Andrea Need seconds
  - 3. Passes unanimously
- F. League of Women Voters outreach event: Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, Nat Hill Room, Monroe County Court House
- G. Sycamore Land Trust's 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration: Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm, Caldwell House

### III. Approval of minutes:

- A. Mike Litwin motions to approve the January EC minutes with submitted edits.
- B. Regina DiLavore seconds
- C. Passes unanimously

### IV. Public comment:

- A. Justin Wykoff (Manager, City Engineering):
  - 1. Ongoing development for the EC to be aware of:
    - a. Proposed roundabout at the intersection of Sare and Rogers with an expected start date of next year. Wykoff presented illustrations and maps of the project to the EC. The size of the center island is the same as the island at the S. High St. and E. Rogers Rd. roundabout. Ideas are being proposed for ways to aesthetically improve the project, such as using porous pavers or perhaps placing an art installation in the center of the island. In addition to the roundabout, sidewalks and wider paths (not to exceed a 2% slope) would be laid to aid in pedestrian mobility. Wykoff will post online documents for commissioners to view.
    - b. Henshel voiced concern over bicycle access and safety.
- B. Presentation by Leif Hagman, Indiana University graduate student in Geography:
  - 1. Seeking input and guidance for the development of his thesis:
    - a. Former EC member, Heather Reynolds, is sitting on Hagman's thesis committee. Hagman's thesis will focus on applying an Ecological Footprint Analysis to document Bloomington's food shed, as well as produce a GIS map of current and potential agricultural land. The analysis would be an adaption from William Rees' methodology (<http://www.scarp.ubc.ca/users/bill-rees>) to arrive at an acreage quantity needed to support a given population. Hagman will also conduct a bio-capacity analysis of land within Bloomington's planning jurisdiction.
    - b. The EC recommends contacting Laura Haley (City GIS Manager) for spatial data, Michael Simmons and Marcia Veldman (City Parks and Recreation), Matt Laherty and Cynthia Schultz (BCOS); and reviewing the most recent BCOS sustainability report (STAR).
    - c. Hagman will provide the EC with a progress report on his thesis in a couple of months.
    - d. Henshel recommends carefully reviewing the dated FDA national food basket figures prior to including the data in Hagman's research.

## V. Presentation by Matt Laherty from BCOS:

### A. Conservation & Expansion of the Bloomington Water Plant:

1. Laherty works for Cisco in the area of critical systems and smart electric grids. Laherty possesses an international array of professional experiences related to sustainability. He has spent the last couple of months examining the Bloomington water system.
2. Presentation summary:
  - a. Monroe Water Treatment Facility is currently operating at capacity, if not exceeding safe operational levels. However, plant operators are doing an exceptional job with the capital equipment they currently utilize.
  - b. Plant expansion is needed and is overdue (estimated at \$40M). Revisions and updates in the design of the plant are needed to meet current standards, such as adding a second distribution pipe.
  - c. Capacity needs to be sufficient to allow for growth, maintenance, outages, and fire protection.
  - d. Council Member Dave Rollo would like to see a back-up system that is run from renewable energy sources to aid in local energy security.
  - e. Monitoring of energy use (to establish peak demand times) would add initial costs to the expansion project. However, it would allow for improved energy management over the long-term, thus reducing operational costs.
  - f. Laherty recommends considering tiered billing (at least for irrigation) to reduce demand.

## VI. Reports:

### A. Planning Committee & Sr. Environmental Planner:

1. Linda Thompson's updates (projects for the EC to be aware of):
  - a. 10<sup>th</sup> and Walnut site: The existing building on site will remain. An apartment building will be built on the vacant portion of the site. There are no mature trees on site (although some shrubs and young white pines exist). Thompson distributed renderings of the apartment building, which will be designed to reflect a historical character. Due to the presence of historical buildings in the immediate vicinity of the site, the proposed apartment building will be set back from the street, which would permit space for landscaping.
  - b. 9<sup>th</sup> and College site (called Nine North Holding): The petitioner is proposing a 5-story building (height variance needed). Floor one would house the headquarters of the German-American Bank (including a banking service drive-thru), as well as a parking lot for commercial banking customers. Although the drive-thru would not be visible from the street, it would still require a variance. The second floor would be comprised entirely of parking for the tenants. The third and fourth floors would contain one, two, three, and four bedroom apartments. The fifth floor would be used as a party room for residents to rent out, as well as a roof patio (non-green roof). Thompson distributed renderings of the building, which adheres to a modern aesthetic. Thompson reminded commissioners of the following matters of concern:
    - i. Given the proximity to Smallwood, it may be a challenge to deny the height variance.
    - ii. The building is located in the downtown zoning district that allows 100% impervious pavement. (Henshel indicates that the lack of porous paving in the downtown district leads to flooding in neighboring areas).
  - c. Project School: The petitioner was previously approved for an addition to the existing building. However, the addition has not yet been constructed. Given a

project budget increase due to recently awarded grant funds, the petitioner is now requesting an amendment to the approval to build an additional story. The new story would contain a science lab, an art studio, a lunch room, and increased capacity to allow increased student enrollment.

- d. 6.5 acre site on Rockport Rd. (south of Tapp Road): The site, which is currently zoned 'Quarry', contains a historic home, a historic barn (which was illegally converted to an apartment), and an additional three story home that is divided and leased as three separate rental units (which was also illegally built). The property owner is now coming before the Plan Commission (and ultimately City Council) to change the zoning for the site from 'Quarry' to 'Multi-Family'. Thompson reminded commissioners of the following matters of concern:
    - i. The rural site has no city water/sewer, sidewalks, or transit.
    - ii. The highly treed site contains numerous sinkholes.
    - iii. The right-of-way is contested (clearing the existing right-of-way would necessitate the removal of numerous mature trees; the property owner is willing to allow services such as utility lines and sidewalks to be placed inside of the existing right-of-way if the city can provide compensation).
    - iv. The petitioner is likely seeking a rezone as opposed to a variance due to a desire to further develop additional multi-family dwellings on the property in the future.
    - v. The ECPC disapproves of the requested rezoning.
2. Vacancy on the ECPC:
    - a. One available position exists on the ECPC. All EC members with a desire to occupy the position are encouraged to contact Mike Tosick to express their interest.

#### B. EC/BCOS Green Building Committee

##### 1. Mike Tosick's Updates:

- a. The Green Building Tour is scheduled to take place on April 17<sup>th</sup> 2010. Additional information will be distributed next month concerning scheduling and sites to be visited. Announcements will also be made at Green Drinks to promote the Tour.

#### C. Toxins Committee:

##### 1. Regina DiLavore's Updates:

- a. Students of Diane Henshel will not be working on the community toxins project.
- b. DiLavore and Mary Ruhter have been working on crafting a preliminary rough draft outline for the toxins project, which DiLavore will email to EC members for review.
- c. The Toxins Committee has also defined the following goals for the project:
  - i. Determine the top 10-12 chemicals of concern with respect to human health exposure.
  - ii. Identify facilities that release toxins.
  - iii. Identify clean-up sites.
  - iv. Identify Tier-II reporters.
  - v. Identify leaking underground storage tanks.
  - vi. Identify dry cleaning releases.
  - vii. Determine the project scope as city-wide.
  - viii. Recognize the anniversary of the environmental catastrophe at Bhopal India.
  - ix. Examine TRI trending for the past five years
- d. The project will also highlight:
  - i. Sister city comparisons
  - ii. Degree to which the Bloomington wastewater treatment plant removes pharmaceuticals (Diane Henshel has professional ties

with multiple individuals who may be willing to conduct water quality tests).

D. EC/BCOS Water Committee:

1. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:

- a. Lindberg attended the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers annual conference in Indianapolis and gave two presentations. At the conference, Lindberg met with an individual from Illinois who is in the process on conducting a similar project to the EC's toxins research.
- b. Lindberg's education-related work with the Water Committee is ongoing. She is currently reviewing outreach and education materials, specifically an activity guidebook, through Project WET (Water and Education for Teachers).
- c. Lindberg was approached by Bill Jones from ERAC concerning his interest in giving a presentation to the EC on the topic of dredging Lake Lemon.

E. Metropolitan Planning Organization & Transportation:

1. Regina DiLavore's Updates:

- a. MPO/CAC is continuing to work on the long-range vision statement.
- b. MPO/CAC is waiting on approval from INDOT for the Unified Planning Work program.
- c. The local TIP (transportation improvement program) was compared to the state-wide STIP. No issues arose when the comparison was made. However, the following projects were not in the TIP, but were referenced in the STIP:
  - i. Improvement at the Liberty intersection at Highway 45
  - ii. Bridge repair over Jack's Defeat Creek in Ellettsville
  - iii. I-69 section 4 (from Crane to 37)
- d. Discussion arose within the CAC concerning the quality of projects being submitted by local agencies for transportation enhancement funds. By the next meeting, CAC urges involved parties to consider broader goals and concerns, such as bike and pedestrian related transportation issues.

F. Intern status & update

1. Andrea Need's Updates:

- a. The EC has narrowed the search for a new intern to the top three individuals, all of whom will be interviewed. As all candidates appear well qualified, Andrea Need remains hopeful that one of the three applicants will successfully fill the vacancy.

2. Trevor Hagedorn's Updates:

- a. Hagedorn presented the findings from the county-wide greenspace inventory and analysis project to City Council and the Monroe County SWQG.
- b. Hagedorn has cleaned and completed all GIS shapefiles and delivered the data to the city's ITS/GIS department for file conversion to the city's GIS platform.
- c. The review of conditions of approval is ongoing. Hagedorn has completed a review of all petitioners' documents from 2009 and has noted conditions of environmental significance. In an attempt to focus on the conditions of greatest significance, he will continue to review other past projects.

VII. New business:

A. IU-GIS student project ideas:

1. Andrea Need's Updates:

- a. Jeff Ehman (SPEA faculty member) requested the EC's input for potential project ideas for an 'Applications of GIS' course (SPEA-E529). On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jacqui Bauer submitted a food miles project to Ehman, as well as suggest that the EC might

benefit from assistance in spatial analysis associated with the hazardous materials/toxins report.

B. Community Orchard project involvement:

1. Mike Tosick's Updates:

- a. All parties interested in the Community Orchard project are encouraged to attend the upcoming public meeting (see II.D.) Individuals will be needed to plant and care for the trees, as well as those willing to join a board to discuss matters of orchard management/policy.
- b. Amy Countryman will be at the March EC meeting to answer questions related to the Community Orchard, as well as give a small presentation concerning an overview of the project.

VIII. Old business:

A. Herald Times PCB clean-up article:

1. Mike Tosick's Updates:

- a. A couple of weeks ago, the HT ran a PCB clean-up article. Tosick was contacted by a reporter with the HT, who in the opinion of Tosick, inaccurately presented his statements. Tosick contacted the reporter after the article was published to inquire as to whether or not the HT would be willing to correct the inaccuracy. The HT was not willing to run an additional article.
- b. As a result of the article being published, Tosick was contacted by John Langley (Deputy Director of City Utilities). A productive and diplomatic discussion took place between Langley and Tosick. Furthermore, Langley voiced his desire to collaborate with the EC in the future on any PCB related issue. Langley would also be willing to give a presentation at an EC meeting related to his dealings with PCBs in Bloomington.
- c. John Langley and Diane Henshel suggested that Tom Alcamo give a talk to the EC.
- d. EC members interested in matters related to PCBs are encouraged to attend COPA meetings (The Coalition Opposed to PCB Ash in Monroe County, IN). Meeting dates and times are regularly posed online at [www.copa.org](http://www.copa.org).

B. Callery pear replacement fundraiser:

1. Mike Tosick's Updates:

- a. While attended a Tree Commission meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>, Tosick spoke with Dave Williams (Operations and Development Director of City Parks and Recreation) who indicated the city's desire to conduct a staged removal and replanting of the unwanted invasive trees. Given sufficient notice, the city could save financial resources by utilizing a combination of city staff and parks and recreation volunteers to remove and replant the trees.
- b. On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Tosick spoke with Steve Cotter (Natural Resources Manager of City Parks and Recreation) who mentioned that MCIRIS and INPAWS (Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society) are supportive of the pear tree replacement fundraiser.
- c. A practical fundraising goal is \$1,000 - \$5,000.
- d. Kriste Lindberg suggests offering Citizen Scientist credit toward certification to entice more volunteers to participate.

C. Trashion/ReFashion Show:

1. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:

- a. Rehearsals are ongoing to prepare for the show, which will take place at 7:00 pm on 2/20/2010 at the Convention Center. Tickets are priced at \$15 for advanced seating, and \$20 at the door. Proceeds will go to the Center for Sustainable Living.

- b. Trashion/ReFashion has recently gained increased media exposure, with extensive advertising across the I.U. community, articles in the Chicago Tribune, Yahoo News, and USA Today.
- c. The EC has partnered with the Monroe County Waste Management District, A Van About Town, and The Studio – Custom Sewing and Design to present an outfit in the show.

#### IX. Commissioner Announcements and additional reports:

##### A. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:

1. Any EC members that have an interest in water related issues are encouraged to join the joint EC-BCOS Water Committee.
2. The Water Committee's proposal to Benjamin Schultz's class has been approved.
3. The following reports are currently being reviewed: Peak Oil, Whitman, STAR, and Laherty's.
4. All interested EC members are encouraged to attend a celebration commemorating the Sycamore Land Trust's 20<sup>th</sup> year in operation (see II.G.)

##### B. Andrea Need's Updates:

1. Need met with Steve Volan (City Council Member) and a member of BCOS regarding the STAR report. Volan was interested in the notion of commissions, such as the EC, directly bringing concerns to the council if there are matters of perceived importance, as well as recommending changes in policy.

##### C. Keith Vogelsang's Updates:

1. Vogelsang noticed that the Shamrock Point apartment complex (Smith Rd., just north of Morningside Drive) has recently planted numerous Cleveland Pear trees.
2. Linda Thompson points out that the apartment complex project was approved a number of years ago (when Cleveland/Callery Pears were approved tree species). Additionally, Thompson mentions that although species must match those described on a developer's landscape plan, trees planted in addition to what is listed on the landscape plan fall outside of the city's sphere of influence.
3. Mike Tosick informs the EC that members of the Tree Commission expressed a desire to update the Tree Care Manual.
4. Diane Henshel would like to see active outreach to community nurserymen and landscaping firms (such as Lowes) to explain the city's stance on invasive species and hopefully discourage them from selling the Callery Pear and other species that threaten natural ecosystems. (Numerous EC members briefly highlight the fact that legal implications surround this situation).

##### D. Mike Litwin's Updates:

1. Litwin would like clarification as to the EC's role in the GIS project for Jeff Ehman. Mike Tosick indicates that Ehman approached the EC for project ideas to be used in his course (see VII.A.1.a.). Tosick will follow up with Ehman as to how the EC may be of assistance going forward.

#### X. Adjournment:

- A. Mike Litwin motions to adjourn at 9:11 PM
- B. Keith Vogelsang seconds
- C. Passes unanimously



**City of Bloomington  
Environmental Commission**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, 21 January 2010, 7:00 pm  
City Hall – McCloskey Room  
401 North Morton Street

**Attending:** Jacqui Bauer, Regina DiLamore, Trevor Hagedorn (intern),  
Kriste Lindberg, Andrea Need, Mary Ruhter, Heather Reynolds,  
Linda Thompson (staff), Keith Vogelsang  
**Special Visitor:** Dave Rollo (City Council Member)  
**Absent:** Michael Litwin, Mike Tosick (Chair)

### I. Announcements:

- A. Next Environmental Commission meeting: Thurs., 2/18/10, 7:00 pm, McCloskey Room
- B. Next Planning Committee meetings: 1/14/10, 1/27/10, and 2/11/10, 4:00 pm, Planning Dept.
- C. Other upcoming EC-related meetings:
  - 1. Green Building Committee meeting: 1/25/10, 5:30 pm, 908 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street
  - 2. Earth Week Activity Committee: TBD
  - 3. MPO CAC: Wed., 1/27/10, 6:30 pm, McCloskey room
  - 4. Tree Commission: Wed., 2/17/10, 9:30 am, Rose Hill Cemetery office
  - 5. Toxins Committee: Fri., 1/15/10 12:15 pm, McAlister's

### II. Approval of Minutes:

- A. Jacqui Bauer motions to approve December EC minutes with submitted edits
- B. Kriste Lindberg seconds
- C. Passes unanimously

### III. Public comment:

- A. None
- B. If EC members notice soil erosion or wish to submit comments regarding ongoing projects within the City of Bloomington, please email Rick Alexander, City Engineering Assistant Manager, at [alexandr@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:alexandr@bloomington.in.gov).

### IV. Reports:

- A. Planning Committee & Sr. Environmental Planner
  - 1. Heather Reynolds' Updates:
    - a. Patterson Point is an ongoing project being redeveloped by Mark Fig near the intersection of Patterson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. This particular project is a PUD, which requires that the project come before City Council. At a City Council meeting on 1/20/2010 the majority of council members were dissatisfied with the project's proposed boulevard parking plan. The EC had previously requested that this project adhere to the principles of complete streets and pedestrian oriented design. The

attempt to support on-street parking at the site was not successful. City Council ultimately compromised by sending the project back to the Plan Commission with an option of either on-street parking or a boulevard design. EC members are encouraged to read the Herald Times website to gather a deeper understanding of citizens' concerns and questions related to the project.

2. Linda Thompson's Updates:

- a. The last ECPC meeting covered three cases, two of which have been continued. Both of the two continued projects are located near the intersection of Tapp Road and Rockport Road.
- b. The third project is located on the Corner of College Ave. and 11<sup>th</sup> Street. The site includes two older homes in a state of disrepair, both of which the petitioner intends to renovate. The homes' foundations will be rebuilt, Energy Star appliances will be installed, a recycling area will be situated on site, and weak/poorly placed trees will be removed. Additionally, an apartment building is slated to be built behind the homes. Features to be included in the project include indoor and outdoor bike parking, replacing the sidewalk, and paving a gravel alley. Thompson distributed photographs, site plans, and illustrations/renderings pertaining to the proposed development. The petitioner is seeking a three year stay so that the site can be developed in two phases: 1) renovate the two existing homes; 2) construct the apartment building. The ECPC recommends green building initiatives and an improved landscape plan. Reynolds suggests adding the following to the EC's recommendations: using 100 year paint to cover the asbestos siding (given that the petitioner has ruled out asbestos removal do to financial constraints).

B. EC/BCOS Green Building Committee

1. Jacqui Bauer's Updates:

- a. Bauer attended the Green Historic Preservation symposium in Indianapolis on 1/21/2010. The symposium covered issues related to building reuse, as well as a comparison of different green building rating systems. One particular contrast between the systems is the fact that LEED does not award points for materials reuse/recycling if a redeveloper reuses an entire building. While conversely, a British rating system allots the maximum points for materials reuse/recycling if a building is reused. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has unsuccessfully attempted to persuade the USBGC to recognize building reuse.
- b. A new EPA rule will go into effect in April 2010. The rule indicates that anyone receiving compensation for doing improvements to homes built before 1978 will be required to receive lead safety training. Criticism of the new rule has focused on how this requirement may disadvantage urban and first-ring suburban renewal, as this will likely lead to homeowners paying a premium for repair services to their older homes.
- c. Logistics are still being worked out for the 2010 Green Building Tour on April 17<sup>th</sup> 2010. Thus far, tentative stops on the tour include an Earth Care church, World Wide Automotive, New Wings Middle Way House, and a passive residence on 8<sup>th</sup> street.

C. Toxins Committee report

1. Regina DiLamore's Updates:

- a. WFHB has decided not to pursue a grant due to an overly narrow time frame.
- b. DiLamore and Ruhter have met twice in the past week, and once with Professor Diane Henshel (Toxicologist and I.U. SPEA faculty). Henshel is interested in having students from her risk assessment class assist the EC Toxins Committee. Within the next two weeks EC Toxins representatives should deliver a project scope statement to Henshel to clarify goals and expected deliverables. Furthermore, the

spatial scale of the project needs to be clarified as to whether or not the area of investigation will focus solely on land within the City of Bloomington, or extend to the Monroe County limits. It appears that the project could be divided into two sections: 1) releases into air, water, groundwater, soil; 2) stored chemicals that could be a potential hazard. A rough time frame for the Toxins project is as follows: students complete data acquisition by the end of semester (May 2010); Toxins Committee organizes and interprets data over the summer of 2010; EC utilizes an intern in the autumn of 2010 to build a website to post the data and findings.

- c. Henshel mentioned that geo-coded hospital data exists per Bloomington neighborhood. Henshel thought that Council Member Rollo may be able to assist the EC in acquiring the data. This health data would be useful in analyzing relationships between spatial locations of toxins and occurrences of health problems, such as cancer.
- d. Henshel is interested in joining the EC Toxins Committee

#### D. EC/BCOS Water Committee

##### 1. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:

- a. Lindberg met with Water Committee members on 1/21/2010 via WebEx to review the report findings (Peak Oil, Whitman, STAR, and Matt Laherty's), next steps, and more.
- b. Within the Water Committee, Matt Laherty is overseeing committee processes and procedures; Jim Sherman is dealing with pricing and financials; Melissa Clark and Lindberg are focusing on issues related to education and outreach.
- c. Mayor Kruzan, Cynthia Schultz, and Water Committee members have met to discuss findings from Matt Laherty's report and the overall direction of the committee.
- d. The Water Committee plans to work with marketing students of Professor Benjamin Schultz (I.U. Kelley School faculty) to improve communication and outreach, in addition to assisting with intermediate steps related to numerous reports.
- e. A Bio-Retention Tour is scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup> 2010 and is being offered through People's University. Employees from both city of Bloomington and Monroe County will be leading the event. An informational session at Twin Lakes Lodge will be the starting point of the tour, after which attendees will board a City of Bloomington bus to visit roughly a half dozen bio-retention sites (which includes a mixture of residential, commercial, and industrial locations). The basic time frame for the event is from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

#### E. Metropolitan Planning Organization & Transportation

##### 1. Regina DiLamore's Updates:

- a. The MPO/CAC has not met since November. The next meeting will occur in the last week of January.
- b. A public meeting concerning the proposed Sare Road roundabout took place on 1/21/2010. The proposed (Spring 2011) roundabout would be located at the intersection of E. Sare Road and S. Rogers Road. All EC members are encouraged to submit comments to Joyce Williams (City Engineering Project Manager) by 2/11/2010.

#### F. Intern status & update

##### 1. Andrea Need's Updates:

- a. Need and Bauer spoke with former EC intern, Sarah Batto, in a final meeting to conclude her work.
- b. Thompson has widely distributed an advertisement for a new EC intern to replace Batto. Need has also posted the advertisement at the I.U. Mauer School of Law, as

well as distributed it to the I.U. Environmental Law Society. Bauer will verify that the posting has been submitted to the I.U. Office of Sustainability.

2. Trevor Hagedorn's Updates:
  - a. Hagedorn and Need met to discuss the conditions of approval project. Hagedorn later met with Thompson to discuss her expectations of the project and to provide him with a cursory overview of the process for documenting and storing the conditions/project reports, as well as the ECPC minutes, notes, and supporting materials. Hagedorn, Need, and Thompson will meet immediately following the close of the January EC meeting to discuss this project in greater detail.
  - b. Hagedorn has reviewed four months of petitioners' project documents. He has created an electronic spreadsheet to assist in tracking the petitioners' specific cases that include conditions of approval related to matters of environmental significance.
- G. Trashion update
  1. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:
    - a. A design for the Trashion/ReFashion Show has been approved for entry. The EC partnered with a group of agencies to submit a design for the reused apparel fashion show. The show will take place at 7:00 pm on 2/20/2010 at the Convention Center. Donations are still being accepted for items to be included in the silent auction.
- H. ERAC property purchase update
  1. Mike Litwin's Announcements: (Absent)

#### V. New business:

- A. Gift for Phaedra Pezzullo discussion
  1. Pezzullo recently gave birth to a baby boy. All commissioners are encouraged to submit gift ideas to Bauer.
- B. Bloomington Sustainability Newsletter
  1. Jacqui Bauer's Updates:
    - a. The local chapter of the USGBC has suggested creating a quarterly publication which would cover the activities of numerous local organizations. The project is being spearheaded by Carol Wagner, Cynthia Schultz, and Carol Gulyas.
    - b. BCOS has created a system of devoting a theme to each month (January -- Jobs and Employment). BCOS plans to coordinate with the local chapter of the USGBC and other organizations so that topics related to the monthly theme are covered in the USGBC newsletter. The following themes have been scheduled: April -- Housing and Green Building; July -- Water and Sustainable Site Design. Commissioners are encouraged to submit their ideas for future themes to Bauer. Bauer will forward a list of proposed BCOS monthly themes to all commissioners.
- C. Committee representatives for 2010
  1. Linda Thompson's Updates:
    - a. Numerous openings in various EC committees still exist. (Ex. I.U. Themester; I.U. e-Waste collection; pharmaceutical collection project)
    - b. Mary Ruhter confirmed her intent to join the Water Committee.
    - c. If any commissioners know of qualified applicants willing to join the EC, please have them send their CV and letter of intent to the city clerk.

#### VI. Old business:

- A. MLK Day 2010 results
  1. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:
    - a. Three participants created an 11' by 4' mural depicting drainage (stormwater, a cave, sinkholes, and a stream). Lindberg emailed photos of the mural to all

commissioners. Aurora Alternative High School, with Lindberg's assistance, sent out a thank you letter. The letter will be submitted with photos to the Herald Times.

#### B. Prescription drug collection update

##### 1. Linda Thompson's Updates:

- a. Thompson attended a meeting called by Monroe County Prosecutor Chris Gaal concerning the pharmaceutical collection project.
- b. Currently, the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District (MCSWMD) collects pharmaceuticals (with the exception of controlled substances) during normal operating hours. MCSWMD also participates in a police-monitored annual collection in conjunction with the Area 10 Agency on Aging, whereby controlled and non-controlled substances are collected.
- c. Maneuvering the bureaucratic and procedural hurdles across multiple organizations is ongoing. While the discourse needed to get the project underway is moving forward, challenges remain pertaining to the pharmaceutical collection and processing policies of numerous authorities and agencies.
- d. Until the project is functional, community members are encouraged to utilize the MCSWMD and certain local pharmacies for their non-controlled pharmaceutical disposal needs.

#### VII. Commissioner Announcements and additional reports:

##### A. Jacqui Bauer's Announcements:

1. Bauer requests the assistance of the Toxins Committee (or a fellow expert) in delivering a class lecture/presentation to a 100-level I.U. course focusing on environment and people on either February 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> in the evening.

##### B. Kriste Lindberg's Updates:

1. Lindberg was invited to present in early February at the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers. Her presentation will focus on the Citizen Scientist certification program.
2. The Indiana Karst Conservancy has issued Lindberg an outstanding service award. The EC congratulated Lindberg on her achievement.

##### C. Andrea Need's Updates:

1. On 1/20/2010 Need attended a presentation by University of Miami Professor, Brian Soden. Soden's talk, titled 'Extreme Makeover: Planet Earth Edition', used an innovative way of conveying the negative effects of climate change. In particular, Soden modeled the regional effect of global warming on the state of Illinois. Following his projections, the climate of Illinois in 2100 will be synonymous with present day Texas.

##### D. Keith Vogelsang's Updates:

1. Vogelsang, after attending the presentation by Soden, wrote an Eco-Report on the presentation. Vogelsang notes the validity of the findings due to the fact that Soden was one of the lead authors of the technical assessment of the 2007 IPCC report.

##### E. Heather Reynolds' Updates:

1. Reynolds has informed Sue Wanzer from the City Clerk's Office that she is not seeking reappointment to the EC for the 2010 year. The EC applauded Reynolds' for nearly ten years of remarkable service and devotion.

#### VIII. Adjournment:

- A. Jacqui Bauer motions to adjourn at 8:25 PM
- B. Regina DiLamore seconds
- C. Passes unanimously