



**City of Bloomington
Environmental Commission**

The mission of the Environmental Commission is to advise the City of Bloomington on how its actions and policies may preserve and enhance the quality of Bloomington's environment, including the life-supporting processes that natural ecological systems provide to humans and other organisms.

AGENDA

21 February 2016

7:00 PM, City Hall—McCloskey Room, 401 North Morton Street

1. Introductions (7:00-7:05 p.m.)

Present: Nick Kappas, Linda Thompson, Dave DeBikey, Dedaimia Whitney, Chris Neggers, Sarah Green, Mike Litwin, Riley Zipper, Andy Marrs, Chaim Julian
Absent: Ramsay Harik, David Parkhurst
Guests: 3 guests

2. Approval of minutes (7:05-7:10 p.m.)

Approved: 5 ayes, no abstentions

3. Public comment (7:10-7:30 p.m.)

None.

4. Committee reports & discussions (electronic) (7:30 p.m.)

A. Tree Commission

- SPEA undergrad capstone will conduct a tree survey of Dedamia's neighborhood

B. ERAC

C. Plan Commission

5. Discussion from Environmental Commission working groups (A Cycle) (7:30-7:45 p.m.)

A Cycle

A. ECPC/Planning Commission

- ECPC
- Dunn Hill:
 - Site plan is completed
 - Evolve will be the name of the apartments
 - Committing to native plants and extra plantings beyond what the UDO requires; rain gardens; providing recycling; roof with reflective titanium bits; green corridor
 - About 754 beds
- City Side:
 - On the corner of 3rd and Washington
 - Add on to the bank building upward, and build a new building adjacent to it where the parking lot is, with commercial on bottom
 - No landscaping
 - Potential for green building

- Four stories
 - Won't have as many windows as usually required
 - 137 beds
- 3rd and Grant:
 - Office building currently set to be demolished
 - Commercial building in the front, then parking behind on the first floor and apartments above
 - Four stories
 - Recycling space; no landscape plan yet
 - Asking for waivers:
 - For height because they want it a story taller than it's allowed to be
 - For more impervious surface than allowed
 - For less than 50% retail
 - Could be interested in green building if the City offers him good enough incentives, according to Jacqui
- Plan Commission
 - West Tapp Rd. next to Woolery Mill
 - Asking for waivers to change the PUD from commercial to residential
 - Townhomes and apartments up to 2 beds
 - Green features include: LEED-track, karst evaluation, recycling, good amount of greenspace
 - Commissioners asked for solar panels, and expressed concerns about traffic and the LEED-track status as opposed to being fully LEED certified

B. Waste/Hazards

- Haven't had much activity lately
- Contacted by a consultant asking questions about the community re: a MRF - directed to Chad and others

C. Water

- Graywater project is on the backburner currently
- Mike has been attending biodiversity meetings to contribute to habitat network
- Also thinking about working on stormwater
 - Attended a meeting with a group, potentially will create some educational materials for residents

B Cycle

D. Outreach

E. ECPC/Planning Commission

F. Biodiversity

6. Old business (7:45-8:45 p.m.)

A. Bucket List Items

a. Rank ideas

- Have a good list of ideas generated from the bucket list meeting
- Habitat network received the most votes
- Much of the habitat network will be in the annexed area, so it's timely
- Green building incentives and watershed protection also received lots of votes
- Working groups could discuss projects falling within their jurisdiction and decide which ones they want to take up

- When we go about making these decisions, think about what resolutions or ordinance recommendations we could bring to the Council for them to adopt
 - And good news is that we can bring ideas to the Council a little at a time, don't have to bundle them all up in one go
- b. Action Plans
- c. Research Help from Interns

B. Recruitment

- Three vacancies - one mayor appointee, two Council appointees
- A few people have applied to the Council
- Nick will be meeting with the mayor soon to talk about recruitment

C. Working Groups Structure (Touch Base)

- Bio: Andy, Ramsay, Chris, David P., Mike as liaison from water
- Water: Mike, Nick, David P.
- Waste/hazards: Dave, Ramsay, Dedaimia
- Outreach: Dedaimia
- ECPC: David P., Mike, Dedaimia, Nick, Chaim
- Most members on bio and ECPC - are these our priorities?
- Many working groups overlap with each other, especially on particular projects
- Outreach is needed with any project

D. Eco-Heroes

- Partnering with Commission on Aging
- Opening it up to adults this year
- Currently publicizing it and soliciting donations
- Share the promo materials widely and contact Sarah if you'd like to get involved
- April 22 is the date

7. New business (8:45-9:00 p.m.)

A. State of the City Address

- Mayor is promoting a lot of change this year
- So whatever we try to do could be swallowed up by the news cycle
- Talked about water quality and watershed protection
- Local food hub and network
- Zipcar Blue Car car-sharing
- Didn't talk too much about biking or walking

B. Letter to City Council for representative to come to our meetings

- Nick and Dedaimia worked on drafting a letter to the Council for them to send representation to our meetings
- A motion was made to send the letter and passed unanimously
- Nick will send it the 27th, next Monday. Let him know any changes he should make before then

C. Recap of BEAP Presentation

- Linda has copies of the BEAP
- Nick presented the slides that Sarah prepared

- Feedback from the Council was positive
- Councilmembers Steve Volan and Isabel Piedmont-Smith asked questions and thanked the EC for their work
- The BEAP is for everyone - the public, the Council, other commissions, etc.
- Now the next step is implementation

8. Commissioner announcements (9:00-9:15 p.m.)

- The Council is planning on putting forth a climate change resolution
- Plan Commission is meeting next Monday to discuss the environmental section of the CMP
- The COBERI data will be a useful addition to the habitat corridor
- Mike went to the Monroe County Environmental Commission - discussed pending state legislation which could affect environmental issues, Lake Monroe watershed, and the Thompson property

9. Adjournment (9:15 p.m.)

Meeting times

- A. Environmental Commission: 23 March, 7:00 p.m., McCloskey Room, City Hall
- B. Planning Committee: 1 March, & 9 March, 4:00 p.m., Lemon Room, City Hall
- C. Tree Commission: 15 March, 9:30 a.m., Rose Hill
- D. BCOS meeting: 14 March, 6:00 p.m., McCloskey Room
- E. MCEC Com.: 8 March, 5:30 p.m., Nat U Hill Room, Courthouse
- F. ERAC: 12 April, 4:30 p.m., Cascades
- G. MPO CAC: 22 February, 6:30 p.m., McCloskey Room
- H. MCSWMD Board: 9 March, 4:00 p.m., Nat Hill III room, Courthouse