



**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.

MINUTES

17 May 2018

City Hall—McCloskey Room, 401 North Morton Street

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

- Stephen Feely, new TPT summer intern: Just finished 1st year MPA/MSES at SPEA, with Environmental Policy and Natural Resource Management. Undergrad BS in Environmental and Ecological Science.
- Present: Andy Marrs, Matt Caldie, Nick Kappas, Zoe Need, Mike Litwin, David Parkhurst
- Missing: Linda Thompson, Morgan Taylor, Erica Walker, Ramsay Harik

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

- Dave: Wants to have PCB presentation to be included in April 2018 minutes, at least some acknowledgement.
- Minutes approved, motion by Dave, second by Mike subject to future amendment of PCB presentation.

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

- No public comment

4. Discussion from Environmental Commission working groups (**B cycle**) (7:30 - 7:50 p.m.)

B Cycle

A. Outreach

- Morgan, Nick, and Matt met to brainstormed potential ideas. Ideas for outreach included quarterly newsletters and social media pages. Nick suggested reaching out to industry members and power players in Bloomington, and see their perception of how regulations affect them and their own best environmental practices to track and share.
- Outreach should be conjunction with what we are doing for the UDO
- Possibility of a survey, to send out to private sector about their thoughts and feeling on environmental regulations in Bloomington and the state, and get a baseline analysis of their views. This includes IU as well. Then can tailor our outreach accordingly.
- Any outreach items give to Matt, take inventory of what we have.
- Focus on what we currently have done, focus on BEAP and BHCP
- Farmer's Market started in May, so we have two more months of peak season for outreach

B. ECPC/Planning Commission

- Plan commission on Monday (5/14) talked about Bloomington Co-housing pocket neighborhood proposal. 20 of the 24 initially proposed green practices are being carried over into the current petition, but not all practices definitive in each individual house. This property is along Short and Maxwell. Properties are roughly 800 square feet average, with each house to be marketed at around \$250k-\$300k. Nick as part of the

Plan Commission questioned universal design, which petitioner couldn't come up with definition. Petitioner acknowledged this is not affordable housing. Was passed by Plan Commission, nothing really glaring holding this development back.

- JB Salvage came in front of the Plan Commission in regard to opening a drop off recycling center. Community members voiced concern that they have done this before; stating they will provide recycling drop-offs and the petitioning to have land be redistricted to industrial general, after the fact creating a trash transfer station instead of recycling center. This previous event concerned community members, and the potential for a repeat incident. Asked Public Works to conduct a survey to look at need for recycling services in this area taking into account new city recycling. This petition will come back up to the Plan Commission.
 - Linda put in memo asking if incineration is to be included as recycling, JB Salvage said it would strictly be a series of recycling dumpsters for pick up and transfer to an external recycling center not incineration
- Fraternity zoned property previously asking to be relisted as residential pulled its petition

C. Biodiversity

- No updates

5. Old business (7:50 - 8:30 p.m.)

A. Mayor's Monarch Pledge update

- Another opportunity for EC to get into news
- Draft letter to the mayor is in Linda's hands
- Stephen is attending planning meeting for BugFest on Friday to try and have Mayor's Monarch Pledge Proclamation occur at this event. BugFest is scheduled to happen on June 23rd.
- Desire of EC to have Press release by 21st of June

B. UDO updates

- Clarion released their initial assessment document
- Dave attended one meeting, sitting in for Mike. Clarion was giving an overview of what they were going to do. No real mention of environmental topics during presentation. Mainly talked about streamlining chapter organization. No date for next release stated.
- Mike sent Linda and Nick a list about water UDO updates, has a question about Clarion condensing UDO and wanting to combine Design and Development standards; wants to know how the EC feels about that. Additionally wants to examine what updates have been made since the last UDO change.
 - Nick wonders if the design and development standards being combined, may go to previous conversation about form based zoning (not caring the utility of building is, but the aesthetic of building is), unsure if Clarion is addressing this.
- Nick thinks we don't know what we are dealing with until the next update comes to us, and will be more of a sprint once it does. May end up with a few emergency meetings.

C. Updates from other commissions

- Tree commission moved to next week
- BCOS covered a referendum presented by multiple Bloomington high schools, focused on environmental sustainability
- ERAC every two months
- Friends of Lake Monroe is next Thursday 6pm, Monroe county Library
 - Mike believes there is a commitment for them to present to the EC June 21st EC meeting
- Nick suggests collaboration with Bike and Ped commission, as they recently started sending memos to Plan commission

D. 2017 annual report

- Nick has not yet given this to the Mayor, hoping to have this done later this week

6. Commissioner announcements (8:30-8:45 p.m.)

- Matt: Meadow park apartments had removed their recycling facilities, after contacting them and they are bringing them back as they had multiple complaints about this.
- Dave: No announcements
- Mike: Friends of Lake Monroe is having a kayak and canoe trip in June and adopt a shoreline day in June. Mike will forward these events to the commission.
- Zoe: Will be at the EPA in DC until August serving as an intern
- Erin: Started at IDEM last week
- Andy: No announcements
- Nick: The EC currently has three open positions, waiting for them to be filled, 1 city council and 2 mayor. Going to Martha's vineyard next week for his wife's graduation from Brown.

7. Adjournment

Other meeting times

- A. Environmental Commission: 21 June, 7:00 p.m., McCloskey Room, City Hall
- B. EC Planning Committee: 30 May, 6 June, 4:00 p.m., Lemon Room, City Hall
- C. Tree Commission: 20 June, 9:30 a.m., Bryan Perk
- D. BCOS meeting: 12 June, 6:00 p.m., McCloskey Room
- E. MCEC Com.: 13 June, 5:30 p.m., Nat U Hill Room, Courthouse
- F. ERAC: 13 June, 4:30 p.m., TBD