



**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

20 December 2018, 7:00 PM
City Hall—McCloskey Room, 401 North Morton Street

1. Call to order and quorum confirmation (7:00 p.m.)
 - Present: Erica Walker, Ryan Clemens, Matt Caldie, Andrea Webster, Lindsey Hummel, Zoe Need, Andrew Guenther, Linda Thompson (Liaison), David Parkhurst, Nick Kappas (Chair), Mike Litwin, Chris Erickson
 - Absent: Erin Hatch, Morgan Taylor, Kate Corcoran (SPEA Fellow)
2. Introductions: (7:01 - 7:05)
3. Approval of minutes (7:05 - 7:10) The November minutes were approved.
4. Public comment Limit 5 minutes per person (7:10 - 7:20) Dedaimia Whitney came to give a presentation (see below).
5. Presentations: Dedaimia Whitney; EC's role in city planning, and Friends of Lake Monroe (7:20 - 7:40)

Dedaimia Whitney was appointed to the UDO Advisory Committee and is trying to represent the EC's interests and the TC's interests. There is limited time in the UDO meetings dedicated to advising and not all members of the Advisory Committee are present at the meetings. Many of the review decisions are putting a lot of power in the Planning Director (more than the old UDO). During the planning process, ECPC is really important because it provides an environmental review of developments. If a development meets the rules in the UDO and does not have other attributes that require automatic review (e.g. reaching a certain height), it is not seen by the Planning Department. However, if a developer requests a waiver, then the Planning Commission and the EC become involved in a review process (often the waivers are environmental in nature). The EC is not included in the review chart in the new UDO because our review is considered optional (by the consultant) Dedaimia proposed that a good project for 2019 is that the EC has mandatory environmental review of projects.

- Nick: We can contribute to environmental initiatives in the city by utilizing our existing documents. Adding another checkpoint for developers may stop progress.
- Linda: Instead of writing the memos through ECPC regarding new developments that are under review, we should get the items we typically ask for written into the UDO (like increased green building, recycling, white roofs, solar energy, electric vehicles, landscaping).

- o Dedaimia: A list of these changes in to the UDO can be sent to the consultants.
 - Linda: Should some of the building incentives in the UDO should just be made into rules?
 - o This might price individuals out of Bloomington. We want to balance affordability and environmental concerns to improve quality of life.
6. Reports from TC, MoCo EC, BCOS, & ERAC (7:40 – 8:00)
- TC: Lee is adding climate change to the urban forestry plan, which he provided. It includes information on the trees the city is removing and planting. TC provided comments to high school students’ resolution regarding climate change. Davey Resource Group was chosen to do the tree inventory. Carrie Tauscher came from the state to discuss the TC and Lee’s work and she provided resources. The Mayor approved two additional TC seats.
 - MoCo: They did not have quorum, but they discussed their grant program.
 - BCOS: Erin isn’t here.
 - ERAC: Dave sent notes. There will not be a deer hunt this year due to a lack of participants.
7. Discussion from Environmental Commission working groups **A Cycle** (8:00 – 8:20)

A Cycle

A. ECPC/Planning Commission: ECPC wrote a memo for Curry Urban Properties, and the developer reduced the size of the building and added more vegetation. IU Credit Union is planning a new facility on E. 3rd St. that will involve a memo with typical green building suggestions. At the corner of Rogers and 2nd St. there will be a remodel and rezoning from medical of an existing building.

B. Waste/Hazards: We may pick this up again in the new year.

C. Water: The U.S. Forest Service is Planning a logging project in Jackson County for a portion of Hoosier National Forest (3,000 acres). Friends of Lake Monroe is concerned about disturbance and erosion into Lake Monroe. They requested a 30-day extension on the scoping process (ends December 26) and they would like support in asking for an extension.

B Cycle

- A. Outreach
- B. ECPC/Planning Commission
- C. Biodiversity



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8. Old business (8:20 – 8:30)
 - A. Vote for 2019 officers
 - New slate (starting in January's meeting): Andrew (Chair), Erica (Vice Chair), Zoe (Secretary/Treasurer)
 - Linda: This will be an exciting year for the EC due to the development of the new UDO.
 - Thanks to Mike, Dave, and Nick for their service to the EC.
 - B. January "2019 priority project" (aka Bucket List) meeting planning: where, when, food
 - January 17, 2019 7:00pm City Hall Hooker Room (Linda will reserve), potluck food and allergies/restrictions (Google Sheet)
 - C. UDO Comments
 - January 4th is the end of the comment period in which Nick will submit our current comments in the document I sent out earlier this week. These comments will be heard by the Planning Commission, and when the comments come up EC members will be more specific about them with examples or metrics. Linda will send in general ECPC recommendations to add in that initial document.
9. New business (8:30 – 8:45)
10. Commissioner announcements (8:45 – 9:00)
 - Linda: No new announcements.
 - Matt: IU athletic events have poor recycling practices due to improper sorting.
 - Andrew: Attended the recent City Council Meeting on repairing the 4th St. Garage, reported trees to the City, and thanked everyone for the opportunity to be chair and the previous slate for their service.
 - Mike: No new announcements.
 - Erica: No new announcements.
 - Ryan: No new announcements.
 - Zoe: No new announcements.
 - Lindsay: No new announcements.
 - Andrea: No new announcements.
 - Chris: No new announcements.
 - Dave: No new announcements.
 - Nick: Proud of where we are and looking forward to 2019.
11. Adjournment

Other meeting times

- A. Environmental Commission: 17 January, 7:00 p.m., McCloskey Room, City Hall
- B. EC Planning Committee: January, 4:00 p.m., Lemon Room, City Hall
- C. Tree Commission: January, 9:30 a.m., Rosehill Office
- D. BCOS meeting: January, 6:00 p.m., McCloskey Room
- E. MCEC Com.: January, 5:30 p.m., Nat U Hill Room, Courthouse
- F. ERAC: unknown, 4:30 p.m., TBD