



**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

16 May 2019, 6:00 PM
City Hall—Hooker Conference Room 245, North Morton Street

1. Call to order and quorum confirmation

- Commissioners Present: Matt Caldie, Chris Ericson, Don Eggert, Lindsey Hummel, Mike Litwin, David Parkhurst, Erica Walker, Andrea Webster, Linda Thompson (Liason)
- Absent: Andrew Guenther, Ryan Clemmons, Kate Corcoran

2. Introductions

3. Approval of minutes

Approval of April minutes did not take place.

4. Public comment: Limit 5 minutes per person

None

5. Reports from TC, MoCo EC, BCOS, ERAC, & MPO

MoCo - nothing to report.

ERAC - nothing to report, meeting coming up.

MPO - Andrew has started going, but he is absent today so he can't give an update.

A. New representative to BCOS

Linda - No actual reserved EC position on BCOS, but have sent envoys in the past. BCOS has been more active than in recent years, so it would be nice to keep up with what is going on. No staff liaison right now since the Assistant Director of Sustainability position is vacant now.

Andrea- some overlap between the two in regard to mission. Big priority for BCOS this year is the sustainability plan. Current president wants to have active members. Meetings are twice a month. The main meeting is on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 6pm, and there is also a work session meeting each month. Meetings are recorded and available on CATS public access.

Erica - Is anyone interested in being a representative or attending meetings?

Don - Interested in attending meetings and reporting back.

B. New representative to Tree Commission

Tree Commission: We have a position on the commission, but it has recently been vacated - We need a new representative. The commission meets once a month on a Wednesday 9:30am. Linda goes every now and then. Since not all commissioners are present today, let's send out an email about interest, table this for the next meeting.

6. Discussion from Environmental Commission working groups B Cycle

B Cycle

A. Outreach

- a. Dave will send the letters to Linda for preparation, placement on letterhead.
- b. While we work on the UDO commenting, we want it to be the group that is still functioning- what do we want to achieve during the summer? Who wants to be involved, how?
 - i. Linda: some ideas- tabling - outreach group should look at everything we have and see what we need. Some things do need updating. We have money to purchase materials.
 - ii. Chris - One of Mike's ideas was a monthly HT article, Saturday Farmer's market once a month.
 - iii. Don - HT guest column might be better than an opinion since opinions are limited to 200 words, we should brainstorm environmental issues (local, global), personal responsibility, stress personal connection.
 - iv. Erica - sounds like we want to pool together and work on outreach?
 - v. Matt - Collective outreach sounds like a good idea.
 - vi. Andrea will reach out to group at IU lead by Heather Reynolds that is creating a green infrastructure map to see what they are doing, if that is something that would make a good presentation for us.
 - o Linda - Heather Reynolds reached out about the City's green infrastructure grant. A presentation would be good.
 - vii. Erica - next meeting we need to talk about assigning projects, meeting goals. Maybe make a hand out about the UDO, talking points for booth people.
 - viii. Don - make sure to include other departments, chamber of commerce. Met with Vic Kelson - "adopt a storm drain", maybe we could adopt a list of things to do. (Linda - EC pushed the storm drain labeling
 - ix. Mike - outreach to departments - what would they like to see from us.

B. ECPC/Planning Commission

- a. Linda - One case to discuss. Examined by ECPC already. Parcel build out of Sudberry Parcel O. This has already been built out for single family and duplex - remaining is multi-family: proposed 101 units, 180 bedrooms, 145 parking, 3 stories. South off of Tapp road, Woolery Rd, North of Weaver Mill, putting in Clear Creek trail -950 ft along Woolery Rd. No landscape plan available as of yet so it is hard to say much about environmental issues. Possible concern for erosion control (all slopes toward creek.)
- b. Would it interfere with the EC Connectivity plan? Yes, however there are a lot of areas near the parcel that are protected, wooded vegetation (conservancy easement). Not marketing for students. Last

development built on Tapp Rd. marketing for young professionals,
those who work at Crane, this seems to be the way this case is going.

C. Biodiversity



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None

7. Old business

A. Eco Heroes re cap

Large turnout! We filled the council chambers.

Mayor was excited.

Lessons for next time: Show digital media, collaborative art session

Lindsey will send out link to the photos of the award winners

A. UDO

Have our comments gone through? Linda will explore before next meeting. Appears that Kate did submit the comments.

Next steps

- Send a representative to speak with City Council in the Fall. Plan commission is currently reviewing public comments, may or may not release another draft before final is released to Council.

Bryan Park area - developers can buy property, built up to four-plex

Fourplex wouldn't have to follow environmental regulations.

May want to add these concerns about environmental exceptions, sustainability incentives for student districts to our comments -

Timeline is unclear as of right now.

Can give presentation at plan commission meetings.

B. EC vacancies

- a. Two- both council appointed positions.

8. New business

A. Deforestation at the peninsula at Monroe Lake

Concerns about the clear cutting

Table for next meeting, when there might be more information, and discuss what we'd like to do.

B. New secretary

- Need to fill to take notes during meetings. Who would like to do it?
- Discuss next meeting as well.

9. Commissioner announcements

Andrea - how will the annexation impact UDO? Linda - not clear, haven't heard movement still in process, may be challenged by the state, so will not likely have movement in the near future. Might have sections of the UDO to revisit, impact city departments.

Dave - rather than buying yogurt, making own. Lucky's market has milk in glass bottles. Bloomingfood's now has glass bottles as well. Oberweiss brand.

Mike - Sycamore Land Trust's Bean Blossom trail loop opening back up very soon! Lots of wildlife. Brought milkweed plants for anyone who would like one.

10. Adjournment

Next EC meeting, 20 June, 6:00 p.m., Hooker Room, City Hall