



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, April 20, 2009

4:30 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
City-County Building, Room 108
Meets the 3rd Monday of the month.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 6 -

Larry Palm; Jonathan H. Standridge; Lori O. Grant; Roger T. Bannerman;
Reginald N. Weide and Keith W. Pierce

Excused: 2 -

Michael W. Rewey and William C. Sonzogni

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Pierce, seconded by Bannerman, to Approve the Minutes . The motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. [14435](#) Discussion with Planning Staff on proposed changes to zoning codes

Matt Tucker (Zoning) and Rick Roll (Planning) were present to discuss the proposed changes to the City's Zoning Code. The last code rewrite was in 1966 and few people are able to easily navigate the language of the code. The rewrite should be much easier for everyone to understand and for developers to know ahead of time what will be permissible in various neighborhoods. Some environmental-related proposed changes include eliminating the minimum parking stall requirements, increasing landscaping around parking lots, preventing owners from being able to pave over their entire lot, and encouraging mixed-use development.

Commissioner Standridge asked if infiltration practices would be required in any way. Mike Dailey indicated that new development requires infiltration now, just not on a lot-by-lot basis. Commissioner Weide asked about the acres of wetlands in the city. Tucker noted that each wetland needs to be delineated, which is the responsibility of a developer prior to receiving permits. City Zoning incorporates those delineations into a larger map, and will eventually create an overlay of wetland boundaries within the city.

Other notable changes to the code include redesignating "Ag Districts" into two new districts: a revised Agricultural Use District (where farming can continue) and Urban Agriculture (local food production, etc.).

Commissioners indicated that they would be willing to help support any environmental changes that may be somewhat controversial.

Tucker indicated that staff will take any comments that the COE may have as they continue to have public meetings on the proposed changes. In the next several months they hope to have a resolution to Common Council to make the the proposed changes.

- 2. [13861](#) Approving the dissolution of the Erosion Control Subcommittee to the Commission on the Environment.

A motion was made by Bannerman, seconded by Palm, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER . The motion passed by voice vote/other.

- 3. [14446](#) Appointing a Representative to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee

A motion was made by Bannerman, seconded by Grant, to reappoint Reggie Weide as the Solid Waste Advisory Committee representative. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

- 4. [13991](#) Phosphorus in Road Salt

Genesis showed a chart that indicated the relative levels of phosphorus found in road salt, road sand, ice slicer, residential fertilizer applications, and runoff from residential lawns. The levels of phosphorus found in fertilizer and lawn runoff were significantly higher than levels found in any winter road maintenance materials.

Commissioners agreed that the phosphorus levels in the winter maintenance materials was not significant.

REPORTS

- 5. [08478](#) REPORT FROM WATER UTILITY BOARD:

None

- 6. [08479](#) REPORT FROM SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Commissioner Weide indicated that George Dreckman (City Streets) may be interested in having a joint public hearing (Solid Waste and COE) with regards to controlling plastic bag use/disposal. A current proposal is to have a variety of city-run drop-off locations for the bags, which can then be sold.

- 7. [13375](#) STAFF REPORT

- 1. Commissioner Bannerman's term was up in April; his renewal process in in progress.
- 2. There is still a vacant position. Members may forward names of anyone who is interested in serving to Mike Dailey.
- 3. Election of officers will be next month. Chair Standrige reminded the

commissioners that he will no longer be serving as chair, and so consider who should be the new chair prior to the May meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Bannerman, seconded by Grant, to Adjourn . The motion passed by voice vote/other.