

Environmental Advisory Board Meeting Minutes: April 24, 2024

Call to Order: 6:35 AM

Present: Linda Allison, Michael Fitch, Holli Arnett, Nate Chrisanson, Jenni Braun Paliszeski, Jennifer Fugita, Paul Farquar; Heather Otterstetter (Staff Liaison filling in for Bridger Tomlin); (no public attendance)

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Motion approved and passed

Old Business:

Review draft version of EAB Mission Statement:

- Tweaked draft's lettering and syntax. Discuss using advocate as a stronger word and replace bold with scalable / engaging in education / remove "bridge the gap". Final version read and approved by all members present. Made sure we are not in conflict with the city guidelines/EAB code.
- Draft put forth for approval by City Clerk: "The Environmental Advisory Board advises city council and staff on environmental matters and sustainability. We engage with our community and advocate for collaborative, bold, and scaleable solutions for a clean, vibrant, and resilient Westminster for current and future generations."

Summer Block Party Tabling:

- Occurring this Friday at the Fire Fighters park. Most of the members will be out, but Holli and Jennifer will be able to make it.
- Discuss the logistics of set up, where the banner and other items are in the rolling crate that was provided to us last year. Heather will provide additional disbursements.
- Topic will be the new Sustainability Center. No one knows if the Center will have their own booth – suggestion made to contact the office this week and to coordinate.

New Business:

Review City Council agenda and study items:

- Focus on the June 6 study session. Other items of consideration are the redevelopment of the Zerger school property and the development of the new water plant.
- Paul relays information on what has been discussed at the CAT water plant meetings and suggest we might want to help promote the success of Westminster's reduced water usage over the years which has allowed the plant to come back up for consideration at a lower production rate—this was highlighted as a good example of how sustainability in water consumption in many areas has a positive effect. Discuss how the plant is still a contentious issue and is it part of the EAB charter to take on those issues?

General discussion on how to meet and work with the city council.

- Maria suggest one-on-one-interactions if possible with council members who have open-door policies. Some municipalities have meet and greet evenings at the parks, not sure Westy does that.
- If EAB members do get a chance to interact be sure to focus on asking how the EAB can help the council, how can the EAB be used as a resource for the council.

Discuss the upcoming Regional Front Range Sustainability Board Meeting on May 30th:

- Maria goes over the discussions she has had with Boulder on topics and focus.
- Too soon for most members to attend, but Linda or Jennifer will try to attend. Maria will talk to Boulder about having them hosting the following one in August and have us get better prepared.

Additional Items:

- Make sure EAB members knows about the on-boarding training required by the city which will take place June 13 at City Hall
- Suggestion made for the members to keep an eye out for speakers to attend our meetings, maybe have a representative from the water plant make a presentation. Leads into a general discussion of upcoming developments in Westminster on the few remaining buildable sites.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 26th, 6:30 PM