

Environmental Advisory Board
August 28, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

6:35 p.m.

Roll Call:

- Paul Farquhar
- Nate Christianson
- Michael Fitch
- Maria Rotunda
- Linda Allison
- Jennifer Fugita
- Jenni Braun Paliszewski
- Bridger Tomlin (Staff Liaison)
- Robert Arnoff (Public)

Agenda: Approved

Minutes from the July 31, 2024 meeting: Approved

Public Comment:

6:40 p.m.

- Robert Arnoff: gave a quick review of his background and mentioned exited to listen

New Business

- YAP meeting discussion
 - Nate and Maria volunteered to attend meeting and present on EAB role and sustainability
 - Next YAP meeting is September 11, and they have scheduled a window between 6:15 PM and 6:45 PM for representatives of the EAB to discuss how to coordinate and work with them.
 - Topics to discuss with them:
 - Strategic city planning on sustainable – member roles as advocates and/or outreach
 - Maybe frame a problem statement to ponder with strategic sustainability
 - Presentation on emerald ash borer and the effect. Ways to get the word out to their age group
 - Service opportunities
 - How/ways could the group engage the youth of the city on sustainability – what topics are of interest.
- Reviewed Mid-year check in and fall goals
 - We have refined our mission statement to more accurately reflect EAB goals.
 - Beginning to explore methods to align the EAB with city council
 - Worked on furthering the Front Range EAB cohort
- Conversation on future work opportunities: Bridger brings up that the city 2025 budget is now packaged and may have areas for EAB to participate.
 - City is expanding solar on city properties
 - Maybe look at the sustainability office status spreadsheet presented to council and see where EAB could help with each goal

- Use city budget items and goals to develop EAB presentations at the council meetings
- City energy management – Bridger has access to the plan – electrification is going to be a big push – explore goals for the EAB to contribute
- look at city solar strategy – Bridger will share with the EAB

Old Business

- EAB letter to City Council on tree equity grant program/extreme heat:
 - Reviewed Maria’s draft letter on tree equity grant program from the last meeting presentation by the City Forester. Overall a great letter – suggestions from the group included converting some statements to bullet items and or bold parts of text/expand or encourage council to look at other funding opportunities in the areas of urban heat issues in low-income populations. Maybe highlight the proposed city Urban Forest Management Plan (in development so need to coordinate with Bryan McCoy).
 - Discussed how to help council reinforce/develop more of these types of actions and how the EAB can add emphasis on how important these issues are.
 - Discussed how to present the final draft of the letter to council - really need the input of our council liaison on effective presentation procedures.
- Review regional board initiative progress to date: The group needs to focus on keeping momentum. A suggestion is to have another networking meeting – at a city golf course facility or the new Sustainability Center. Suggest to send out notices to the regional board members and get feedback.
- Westy Fest Discussion:
 - Bridger has confirmed the permit for a table at Westyfest.
 - Xcel will have their Big Red Truck on site and will be covering energy issues, conservation, and sustainability.
 - Possible topics for our table include composting, including pumpkins after the holidays / emerald ash bore / limb recycling.

Staff Reports or Other Announcements:

- Bridger relayed information on the recent installation of air sensors in the area through an Adams County Public Health program. One is installed at the Irving St Library and residents can go to the Love My Air website to look at the data such as PM 2 readings. Maybe develop a presentation on the project to include at the table.
- A status report was presented on the National Night Out, which was considered successful, especially with the raffle of two electric lawnmowers.
- Sustainability Office has published a survey to garner feedback on potential locations for EV charging stations on City property. The City will also use data from the map the EAB solicited public input on at Westy Fest in 2023. The City is planning to install several stations and a general discussion proceeded on where existing locations are located.
- Sustainability Office is hosting an EV showcase on the 15th at the Orchard Town Center and is giving away free LED light kits
- Paul announces an upcoming CAT meeting for the construction of the new water plant. Date of the meeting is Sept 11 and the EAB may want to start considering a replacement for him for future meetings once he moves out of Westminster.

Adjournment

8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: September, 27 2024, 6:30 p.m.