

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April 7, 2016
City Council Chambers

A Special Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the City of Woodstock was called to order at 5:30 PM on Thursday, April 7, 2016 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Ellinghausen, Laurie Kacmar, and Chair Erica Poremba.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Jaci Krandel and Steve Wenzel.

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant Public Works Director Tom Migatz and Chief Deputy Clerk Jane Howie

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by E. Ellinghausen, second by L. Kacmar to approve the March 3, 2016 Minutes. Ayes: Ed Ellinghausen, Laurie Kacmar, Chair Erica Poremba. Nays: None. Absentees: Steve Wenzel and Jaci Krandel. Abstentions: None. Minutes were approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Continue review of Environmental Plan Recommendations List

E. Poremba asked the Commissioners to review page 18, section 208. E. Poremba asked if there are any incentives to builders for building 'green'. T. Migatz was unsure about this but he said he could look into it. Members agreed that this is a low-priority item.

Community Education & Outreach, sections 211-214. E. Poremba believes part of this is happening. The Environmental information is on the website. The Commission may want a page that is committed to environmental issues. L. Kacmar said this would reinforce their work. The members rated this section as high-priority. L. Poremba said items such as sustainability could be included in the City Scene. High-priority would be placing items on the City's website. Distribute the City of Woodstock Annual Environmental Progress Report; the Commission rates this as a high-priority to place this on the City's website, have information available at the public library, and in the City Scene. Action items could be added to the website and City Scene. This shows the public and the community what this Commission is about and assists with moving forward.

Explore Development of Programs for Developmental Outreach, 215, sections A & B. (ongoing & continuous). The Commissions work with the Defenders is ongoing. No child left inside; exploring the environment. There may be more to this. E. Ellinghausen said the Parks & Recreation Commission has a substantial outreach program already in place.

E. Poremba said Mayor Sager had asked that the Commission rate these items in priority. E. Ellinghausen said they could place these in order of priority / rankings. L. Kacmar said it seems

that there are 4 main categories. City of Woodstock in-house duties. Implementation & construction, which administration is responsible for. Implementation is directed toward community. Awareness and education platform. Then prioritize how they are related to form a means for each category. There are many similarities, so this would give a place to begin with prioritizing. L. Poremba suggested that each Commissioner review the material and put them in these categories. What is most attainable? What can City Administration do? What is the community responsible for? What is the Commission responsible for? E. Ellinghausen suggested a score card. Include what's currently attainable and provide a timeline of when these items are attainable. For example, 1 year, 2 ½ years and 5 years for attainability. This will be discussed at the next meeting; be ready to make decisions. E. Poremba asked if the Commission can add items to the Environmental Plan. T. Migatz said these items would have to be approved by the City Council. All recommendations must go through Council. The Mayor requested that some of these items are completed. E. Ellinghausen will write something up to present to this Commission at the next meeting.

B. Donato arrived at 5:40 PM.

Ranking matrix will be discussed at the next meeting. E. Poremba asked that T. Migatz add the priorities to the plan and email it to the Commission for review, and to bring absent members up to speed.

E. Poremba works for Roosevelt University and sits on their Sustainability Commission. She said that the City of Woodstock's Plan is very impressive compared to what other communities have in place.

S. Wenzel arrived at 5:50 PM. E. Poremba caught him up with the items that were discussed and how they will prepare for the next meeting. T. Migatz said the new Building Codes were approved by City Council at Council's April 5, 2016 meeting.

B. Donato asked if climate change is included in the Plan. S. Wenzel mentioned that the City could implement cooling shelters. Lower the carbon footprint of the City. These items are included in the Plan, as well.

B. Develop action items ranking matrix from Environmental Plan Recommendations List – this will be discussed at next month's meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by S. Wenzel, second by L. Kacmar, to adjourn to the Special Joint Meeting with the Cultural & Social Awareness Commission. Ayes: E. Ellinghausen, L. Kacmar, S. Wenzel, Chair E. Poremba. Nays: None. Absentees: J. Krandel. Abstentions: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM. The next regular meeting of the Environmental Commission will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Howie
Chief Deputy Clerk