

APEX ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date:
June 16, 2022
6:00p.m.



Hybrid Meeting
Apex Town Hall Room 3A
Microsoft Teams

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

Katie Schaaf, Chair
Suzanne Mason, Vice Chair
Patrick Adams
Adam Efird
John Garrison

Bill Jensen
Jason Maynard
Kim Pierson
Greg Reger

Call to Order & Roll Call

The remote Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) meeting was called to order by Chair Katie Schaaf at 6:04p.m. Members physically present included Chair Schaaf. Members present remotely were Vice Chair Suzanne Mason and Board members Adam Efird, John Garrison, Bill Jensen, Jason Maynard, Kim Pierson, and Greg Reger. Board member Patrick Adams was absent.

Councilmember Cheryl Stallings was in attendance. Town staff members present were Senior Planner Shelly Mayo, Environmental Engineering Manager Jessica Bolin, and non-voting staff secretary Sustainability Coordinator Megan Pendell. Members of the public had access to the meeting through the Town of Apex YouTube livestream page.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Schaaf asked the Board if there were any comments on the Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2022, and praised Vice Chair Mason for running an efficient meeting. Board member Garrison made a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Board member Maynard. Board member Pierson abstained, and all other present Board members voted in favor.

Announcements

Staff member Bolin announced that Town Operations is currently undergoing organizational changes. The EAB will continue residing under the Water Resources Department with Jessica Bolin being the primary contact for members, and even though the Sustainability Program will be transferring to a new department, the Sustainability Coordinator will continue taking meeting minutes and providing support on sustainability-related topics. While the Board is being made aware of these changes in the background, members should note that there will be no residual effects on the front end of Board operations, including in regards to Staff support and meeting location.

Committee Updates

The Tree Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) has an official new Staff Liaison: Apex Powerline Forester Phillip Barnes. Staff member Barnes recently led the Town Beehives initiative and interviewed with Peak City Podcast. Tree CAP members are discussing the idea of recording monthly videos on basic tree care to include on the Tree CAP website.

The Bee City Committee is hosting a meeting at the same time as the EAB this month on June 16th. Updates on official recommendations from Bee City Committee members on the Board's Suggested Environmental Zoning Conditions list will be shared.

UDO Amendment Workgroup Updates

Vice Chair Mason updated the Board that, as a result of their meeting last week, the Workgroup has now split the list of UDO Amendments into residential and non-residential conditions, as well as converted the statements into goals. Example detailed enforceable language is included with each condition. The group has finished reviewing the items in the

residential list and the next task is to finish reviewing the non-residential list. The Workgroup should be ready to present final recommendations to the Board by the July or August EAB meeting.

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Update

Since the Bee City Committee staff liaison, David Wood, could not be present, staff member Pendell presented an update to the Board on the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. The National Wildlife Federation offers the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, an opportunity for municipalities to help preserve the monarch butterfly, habitat, and migration. Inspired by a local third-grade class that introduced Town Council to this opportunity in 2020, the Town of Apex has committed to this pledge in both 2021 and 2022. The Town has achieved 2 action items and has pledged 3 additional actions this year.

Presentation: Trees for the Triangle

Staff member Pendell introduced Executive Director of Trees for the Triangle, Dave Klemp. Guest Klemp graduated from NC State University with a degree in Forestry, with an interest in planting and preserving urban tree canopy. Guest Klemp founded Trees for the Triangle, a non-profit with a mission to improve the aesthetic, economic, and ecological wellbeing of the Triangle area through the planting of trees. Since its founding in 2018, Trees for the Triangle has partnered with a variety of community groups, businesses, and other organizations to work towards their goal of planting fifty thousand trees by 2050. One aspiration is to continue to expand their partners, and potentially work with the NC Department of Transportation (DOT) and plant trees near highways. Trees for the Triangle operates as a pay-what-you-can tree planting service, and does not sell or require donations for tree plantings. Most people pay the suggested donation of \$100, which allows the non-profit to plant trees across the Triangle in an equitable way.

The Board discussed the species, size, and methods in which trees are planted. Guest Klemp also mentioned the non-profit's partnership with the Cary Tree Archive and hopes to expand Trees for the Triangle initiatives in the Town of Apex.

EAB Swag Order Review for FY22-23

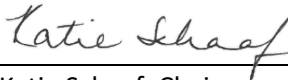
Staff member Pendell presented on the activities, prizes, and giveaway items that the Board used at PeakFest 2021 and EarthFest 2022. She reviewed the current inventory and presented potential options (within the FY 2022-23 approved budget) for items the Board could consider ordering in preparation for EarthFest and PeakFest in 2023. Members stated their preferences and Staff member Pendell will return with a final cost breakdown of those items.

Open Discussion

None.

Adjourn

Board member Jensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice Chair Mason. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:12p.m.



Katie Schaaf, Chair

ATTEST:



Megan Pendell, non-voting staff secretary