



TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Chair Adrienne Tucker
Vice-Chair Mary Metcalf
Gregory Ames
Jericho Cook
Hui Ding

E. Thomas Henkel
Heidi Kim
Bruce Sinclair
John Wallace

Tuesday, May 28, 2019

7:00 PM

RM 233 | 2nd Floor Training Room

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Others Present: Council Member Hongbin Gu, Planning Board Champion Melissa McCullough, Abel Hastings, Ivan Arrington, Nancy Sinreich, Elijah Yetter-Bowman, John Richardson (staff liaison)

Present 6 - Chair Adrienne Tucker, Vice-Chair Mary Metcalf, John Wallace, E. Thomas Henkel, Hui Ding, and Heidi Kim

Absent 3 - Gregory Ames, Jericho Cook, and Bruce Sinclair

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Henkel, seconded by Wallace, that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion carried by a unanimous vote (6-0).

Announcements

The Chair announced a petition forthcoming from Ed Harrison and the Sierra Club called "Ready for 100." The petition is similar in theme to one submitted earlier in the year by the Climate Reality Group, and the Chair said it will also include examples of strategies and targets.

Member Ding asked if a draft Tree Protection petition could be presented and discussed as part of a future agenda. The Chair suggested that the item be briefly discussed after New Business as an introductory, non-action item. The members agreed. The item will also be placed on the June agenda for formal discussion and consideration.

Petitions

None.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Wallace, seconded by Henkel, that the April 9, 2019 action minutes be approved as amended. The amendment is to note that in addition to the importance of Epsilon Eta Environmental Honors Fraternity, representatives from EEE have not attended any ESAB meetings since the one in September of 2018. The motion carried by a unanimous vote (6-0).

Review and Approval of April Draft Action Minutes

[\[19-0492\]](#)

Updates from the Chair

None.

Meet with Prospective Applicants

The Board met with prospective applicants Ivan Arrington, Nancy Sinreich, Elijah Yetter-Bowman to learn of their interest and experience related to the Resident Seat.

Old Business

Review and Discuss UNC Health Care's Summary ESAB
Comments re: Eastowne Master Plan

[\[19-0493\]](#)

The Board members reviewed the summary comments captured by UNC Health Care at the April 9, 2019 meeting. Members commented on the importance of focusing on the feedback of the membership (versus others who attended the meeting) and applying weight or priority to interests.

Member Henkel also provided a summary of the various meetings and workshops he and others have attended regarding the visioning process for the development agreement. He plans to share some ideas for the Board's consideration regarding what ought to be included in the draft development agreement.

New Business

Discuss Greene Tract Property

[\[19-0494\]](#)

Abel Hastings, a resident and member of the Friends of the Greene Tract Facebook group, shared information about the area and highlighted the

group's goal of preserving 80% of the 164-acre property. Mr. Hastings said that the group's goal is consistent with the recommendations of the Rogers Road Community report and noted that over 570 people have signed a petition to preserve the Greene Tract.

He shared that the Greene Tract is the headwaters for Booker, Bolin and Old Field creeks. He also noted that it's the home of the four-toed salamander and includes several old growth trees and old homestead sites. The current plan for the property preserves about 50% of the land, including some of the most environmentally sensitive areas. The plan also proposes mixed income housing and a school. Mr. Hastings said that the property could be preserved as a park, and could benefit from better parking and access. He asked that the Board consider joining him for a hike and support the Friends of the Greene Tract petition.

The Board members asked that it be discussed as part of the June agenda.

Review Draft Climate Action Framework and Discuss Chicago
Climate Action Planning Committee

[\[19-0495\]](#)

The staff liaison shared the Town's focus for the upcoming fiscal year: (1) a Framework to continue taking action and (2) the development of a Climate Action Plan. Examples of action in the coming year include an evaluation of things like: a tree program, costs and options for adding more solar to Town facilities, more EV charging stations, LED streetlight conversion and a pilot composting project. Currently, staff is working to assemble an in-house team and complete a study of best practices for climate action planning. Following that, staff plans to visit with Boards to get input on a climate action plan. There will also be more discussion at the Advisory Board breakfast in June.

Council Member Gu led a discussion about the Chicago Climate Action Plan, highlighting best practices within their approach.

There was also a discussion about how the new budget can support climate action planning efforts now and for years to come. The staff liaison shared that the Manager's Recommended Budget includes \$50,000 for the development of a Climate Action Plan. Looking forward, this plan can serve as the driver for additional investment in future budgets.

Recommendation to Council regarding Board Appointments

[\[19-0491\]](#)

A motion was made by Henkel, seconded by Wallace, to recommend that the Council make the following appointment for the Resident Seat. The motion

carried by a unanimous vote (6-0).

Resident seat – Noel Myers (preference), Ivan Arrington (first alternate)

The Board recommended Noel Myers for his professional expertise in the field of renewable energy, which they also recognize as being an important Town priority. The Board also valued Mr. Myers' commitment to return to the Town after serving previously.

The Board recommended Ivan Arrington as first alternate based on his sustainable business experience and passion for the community.

A second motion was made by Henkel, seconded by Wallace, to affirm the previous recommendations for other seats made at the April meeting and include a justification for each. The motion carried by a unanimous vote (6-0).

Regional Collaboration – Bruce Sinclair

The Board recommended Bruce Sinclair for his valuable expertise in the field of sustainability and his ability to liaise with Carrboro as a member of their environmental board.

Greenways Advocate – Hui Ding

The Board recommended Hui Ding for her valuable knowledge and passion about tree protection, greenways and service to the community.

Stormwater Advocate – Julie McClintock

The Board recommended Julie McClintock for her experience with the Stormwater Management Utility Advisory Board.

Discuss Member Ding's Tree Protection Petition Outline

Member Ding presented the outline of a tree protection petition. The members briefly discussed the outline, and the Chair asked that the item be placed on the June agenda for further discussion and consideration.

Staff Reports/Updates

None.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Henkel, seconded by Kim, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a unanimous vote (6-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Next Meeting -- Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Order of Consideration of Agenda Items:

- 1. Staff Presentation*
- 2. Applicant's Presentation*
- 3. Public Comment*
- 4. Board Discussion*
- 5. Motion*
- 6. Restatement of Motion by Chair*
- 7. Vote*
- 8. Announcement of Vote by Chair*

Public Charge: The Advisory Body pledges its respect to the public. The Body asks the public to conduct themselves in a respectful, courteous manner, both with the Body and with fellow members of the public. Should any member of the Body or any member of the public fail to observe this charge at any time, the Chair will ask the offending person to leave the meeting until that individual regains personal control. Should decorum fail to be restored, the Chair will recess the meeting until a genuine commitment to this public charge is observed.

Unless otherwise noted, please contact the Planning and Development Services Department at 919-969-5066; planning@townofchapelhill.org for more information on the above referenced applications.

See the Advisory Boards page <http://www.townofchapelhill.org/boards> for background information on this Board.