

**Environmental and Sustainability (ESB) Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 14, 2016
Bellaire City Hall Council Conference Room**

Meeting Minutes

A. Opening

The regular meeting of Environmental and Sustainability Board (ESB) was called to order at 6:35PM on Wednesday, September 14 2016, by Jason Wintz, Chairman. There was a quorum of members present.

Members Present

Ayobamidele (Ayo) Bello
Joe Burris
Michelle (Micki) Mastin
Johanna Moran
Jonathan (Jon) Palmer
George Williams
Jason Wintz

Non-Voting Members Present

Brant Gary, Bellaire Public Works
Shawn Cox, Bellaire Public Works

B. Public Works Update:

1. Brant Gary, Public Works Director, informed the Board that Cristin Emshoff has joined the Department as Special Projects Manager, the position formerly occupied by Shawn Cox.
2. Brant also advised the Board that the city is now deep into budget planning for 2017, and that the Bond election slated for November is an important part of that planning.

C. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the Board meeting of August 3 2016 were approved unanimously.

D. Board Business:

- a. Designation of ESB Beautification Liaison: Chairman Jason Wintz appointed Micki Mastin as primary liaison, and Johanna Moran as secondary liaison, of the ESB to the Bellaire Beautification hearings. Brant Gary informed the Board that City Council has asked all Boards to appoint liaisons to the Beautification effort.
- b. November Bond Program: Brant Gary and Shawn Cox distributed a glossy pamphlet titled "Bonds for Better Bellaire 2016," and walked the Board

through a fairly extensive explanation of each of the three Bond Propositions to be included on the Bellaire ballot in November 2016. Most of the emphasis was on Proposition 3, Water and Wastewater Improvements Program. A full discussion ensued, and several Board questions about funding sources to repay the bonds and about alternative strategies were fully answered by Brant and Shawn.

- c. Requested Revision to Chapter 9, Buildings, Article XI, Trees, in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bellaire regarding the specification of undesirable trees for possible presentation to the Building and Standards Commission to address the issue of invasive trees: after much discussion of proposed language that would address specification of invasive trees and of steps to be taken in possible removal of invasive trees, further discussion and consideration was tabled until the October meeting. Prior to that meeting, new proposed language will be distributed to each Board member.
- d. Undesirable and desirable plant definitions: likewise tabled until the October meeting.
- e. ESB revised Rules of Procedure: this item was tabled until the October meeting because several members had not received the proposed revisions prior to the September 14 meeting. (at this point Chairman Wintz left the meeting)
- f. Revised Social Media proposal: George Williams presented a comprehensive proposal for an ESB Social Media strategy. After much discussion, it was moved by Jon and seconded by Joe that ESB adopt the social media plan as presented. Motion passed unanimously. Vice Chairman Johanna Moran appointed George to head the Social Media Committee, which committee will be responsible to recommend to the full Board ESB-sponsored articles/items/links for publication on the City Facebook page. It was agreed by the Board that the first two items submitted to the City for posting, if approved by the City, will be those recommended by George on drinking water and on glass recycling.
- g. November Recycling Event: Jon informed the Board that November 19 is a date acceptable to the primary vendors who might participate in the next recycling event. However, PW informed the Board that November 19 is not a good date, as South Rice Ave. will be closed that Saturday morning for a Bellaire High School event. Jon will follow up on alternative suggested dates.

H. New Business –

- a. Johanna raised the question of official ESB participation in the NDC annual Pumpkin Patch program on October 15-16. After some discussion of the merits of such participation, it was generally agreed that ESB will not participate this year.

I. Adjournment --

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on October 5, 2016.

Minutes submitted by: Jonathan Palmer