

Environmental and Sustainability (ESB) Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 4, 2017
Bellaire City Hall Council Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order and Announcement of a Quorum

The regular meeting of Environmental and Sustainability Board (ESB) was called to order at 6:33PM on Wednesday, October 4, 2017, by Jon Palmer, Chairman. There was a quorum of members present.

Members Present

Ritwick Agrawal
Ayobamidele (Ayo) Bello
Joe Burris
Michelle (Micki) Mastin
Jonathan (Jon) Palmer
Brian Witt

Members Absent

George Williams

Non-Voting Members Present

Michael Leech, Bellaire Public Works Director

B. Approval of Minutes: The motion to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of September 13, 2017 was moved by Joe seconded by Ritwick and subsequently was approved unanimously.

C. Introduction of Visitors:

1. Kevin Newman, Resident and Bellaire L.I.F.E Advisory Board Member –
2. Neil Verma, Resident and Bellaire Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member –

D. Citizen Comments, if any:

1. Kevin introduced himself and indicated he was still running for the City Council in the coming November 2017 elections. He indicated interest in the agenda item relating to assessing a nominal fee for the use of disposable bags.
2. Neil introduced himself and told the board he is running for a seat on the City Council against Kevin.

E. Council Liaison Comments – Roman F. Reed, Mayor Pro Tem: Present

1. The idea of having meetings televised and recorded (if done in City Council chambers) was brought up by Council member Reed as a way to get more

residents involved with the Board and meeting. Chairman Jon thought that was a good suggestion.

2. Council member Reed brought up noise issue on Hwy 610. Ritwick seconded and offered to continue his work on this issue.

F. Public Works Update:

1. Michael provided an update on the ongoing Hurricane Harvey clean-up efforts. His updates include:
 - a. Council authorized debris related contracts in June/July.
 - b. City looking to get reimbursed up to 90% costs from FEMA.
 - c. Currently have picked up a little less than 50,000 cy to date.
 - d. First pass already picked up. Second pass about to start soon.
 - e. Working with County on HHW pick up. Possible piggy back with general pick up.
2. With the ongoing Hurricane Harvey clean-up efforts, Mike indicated that he hasn't had a chance to update the chart of recycling cost implications through 2016 nor does he have an updated ESB annual budget. **He will try to update for the next meeting.**

G. Board Business:

1. Pumpkin Patch Discussion:
 - a. Volunteer not enough to man two days so we doing just Saturday 10/21
 - b. Saturday morning – Brian and Joe
 - c. Saturday Afternoon – Micki and Ayo
 - d. Doing an effort to get more cans.
2. Educational Opportunity Discussion:
 - a. HGAC session – Jon to go and report back.
 - i. Councilmember Trisha now replacing Councilmember Pat as the Bellaire HGAC representative. **Jon to reach out to her to see if she's going or willing to go.**
 - b. Pepsi sponsors a rally at elementary and middle schools to create awareness of environmental sustainability – **Jon to reach out to George and coordinate.**
3. Bag Fee Discussion:
 - a. Ritwick brought up idea, all agreed it is a good idea. All agreed to leave item on agenda on duties for the board. **Ritwick and Board to look at success stories from somewhere else to help in having a meaningful conversation in the future.**
4. Social Media Posts:
 - a. None.
5. Follow up on assignments agreed upon at previous meeting:
 - a. Semi-annual Recycling drop of events

- i. Mike suggested not having on this year as the PW staff are still trying to focus on Hurricane Harvey recovery. Board agreed that was ok.
 - ii. **Ayo to look at alternative for ATS for textile recycling.**
- b. Hazardous waste pickup
 - i. Voucher .Mike indicated PW possibly has a budget for this and will be purchasing vouchers for residents' use.
 - ii. Annual/semi-annual Pick up event. **Ayo didn't have any update but to continue investigating options and report at the next or future meeting**
- c. Engaging neighborhood businesses about sustainability
 - i. Both as recyclers and
 - ii. As part of encouraging/increasing residential recycling
 - iii. **Jon to look into and report back to the board.**
- d. ESB Rules of Procedures to be updated. Ayo sent out copy of last version adopted by the Board last year to Jon. Jon indicated he sent to Tracy to update on the website. Ayo indicated that it needs to be revised for this year so encouraged all to review and provide input for update. **Jon/Ayo to send to all Board members.**

H. New Business:

- 1. None.

I. Next Meeting: The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday November 1, 2017 at City Council Conference Room.

J. Adjourn: Joe motioned to adjourn the meeting. Micki seconded. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56PM.

Submitted by: Ayobamidele G. Bello