

Environmental and Sustainability (ESB) Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 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 6:38PM on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, by Jon Palmer, Chairman. There was a quorum of members present.

Members Present

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

Members Absent

George Williams

Non-Voting Members Present

Michael Leech, Bellaire Public Works Director

B. Approval of Minutes: Three corrections were made to the last minutes; one to remove George Williams from the list of members present, the second was to correct the meeting date under Approval of minutes and the last was to remove the word “code” from item G.2.b. The motion to approve the minutes of the Board meeting of October 4, 2017 was moved by Joe seconded by Brian and subsequently was approved unanimously.

C. Introduction of Visitors:

1. None.

D. Citizen Comments, if any:

1. None.

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

1. Not Applicable

F. Public Works Update:

1. Michael provided an update on the ongoing Hurricane Harvey clean-up efforts. His updates include:
 - a. All scheduled pick up is complete but there is still storm related debris that PW will continue to pick up.

2. Communication Issues:

- a. Michael noted he would like to do something relative to better communication as to what is and isn't recyclable. Ideas discussed include:
 - i. Mailers in the water bill.
 - ii. Enforcing the rules on picking up only recyclable items and leaving notes behind for residents.
 - iii. Providing a sticker for the bin (fyi, stickers sent out earlier in the year through the resident Boys scout).

3. Solid Waste Update:

- a. Michael indicated that he doesn't have an update as Waste Management still dealing with the aftermath of the storm. He will try to provide an update for the next meeting.

G. Board Business:

1. Recycling Drop-off Event Schedule

- a. Michael to confirm date options based on City Calendar. Options are January 13th and 20th.
- b. Location will be at Conditt Elementary School.
- c. Joe to coordinate with Conditt Elementary School to confirm date availability.

2. Educational Opportunities

- a. Jon briefed the board on the HGAC recycling meeting he went to last month.
 - i. Bellaire got called out as one of the cities with higher recycling rates in the region.
 - ii. There is still room for more waste diversion by diverting yard waste.
 - iii. Current permitted area landfills have enough capacity through approximately 2050.
 - iv. Jon to send out the link to the presentation to the Board.
- b. Ritwick gave an update on noise pollution.
 - i. Johanna indicated that Ritwick contact James Avioli who directed him to Council member Trisha Pollard.
 - ii. Trisha Pollard is now the TXDOT liaison for the City. She is in contact with TXDOT. Ritwick trying to set up a meeting with her for further discussion.
 - iii. Ritwick indicated he contacted TXDOT Environmental department and was told TXDOT typically would not be able to install sound walls unless there is an active project ongoing.

- iv. He'll continue working and report to the Board as more information comes up.
- 3. Communications Committee Report
 - a. None.
- 4. Hazardous Materials Disposal Alternatives
 - a. Ayo didn't have any update but will continue investigating options and report at the next or future meeting.
 - b. Mike to provide the contact information from the recent HHW pick up for Ayo to reach out to and provide information on Harris County HHW services.
- 5. NDC Pumpkin Patch Participation Review:
 - a. Event was a success with participation (only volunteered on Sunday).
 - b. There was more than enough cans to use at the event.
 - c. Futurama Robot was a hit.
 - d. Micki indicated that the location of the Board table was not ideal due to the rain.
 - e. Brian suggested improving/updating the information on the ESB Poster.
 - f. Materials currently stored at Johanna's house.
- 6. Discussion of Date and Location of the December ESB Meeting.
 - a. Meeting date set for December 6th, 2017 at the City Council Conference room.
 - b. Micki suggested having a social dinner afterwards.
 - i. Ayo indicated that a notice of quorum might need to be posted and the venue needed to be decided ahead of time so can be included in the notice (if decided ahead of time).
 - ii. Jon to send out location of dinner.

H. New Business:

- 1. Shipping Boxes ahead of holiday.
 - i. Flyer to advise residents to flatten and recycling their boxes. Jon to work with George to get a message to Michael to look into the possibility of sending out with the next water bill.
 - ii. Jon to work with George to have a Facebook post ahead of the holidays.
- 2. Battery recycling
 - i. Ritwick indicated that his neighbors tend to dispose batteries in the recycling box and offered a solution having boxes dropped off at places where people can drop off batteries and someone can go drop off at vendors.
- 3. Change in Recycling Containers:

- i. Jon asked Michael what PW's view was on going with larger containers for recycling. The cost implications and the City budget issues were discussed.
 - ii. Ayo to email Shawn Cox about scope of work for the solid waste study planned for next year and what can be accomplished then.
- 4. Ayo discussed the City's Community Pathways Plan and urged Board members to take survey and visit the project website.
- 5. Ritwick brought up the idea of having help and budget to further board agenda items.
 - i. A discussion followed on available resources.
 - ii. Michael to confirm amount allocated in budget for ESB business (if existing).
- 6. Micki suggested board members attend the Parks and Recreations Advisory Board as items relating to ESB items come up for discussion in their meetings.
- I. Next Meeting:** The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday December 6, 2017 at City Council Conference Room.
- J. Adjourn:** Jon motioned to adjourn the meeting. Joe seconded. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22PM.

Submitted by: Ayobamidele G. Bello