

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP ADVISORY COMMISSION
August 3, 2010
5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL ANNEX, 1300 MAIN, CONFERENCE ROOM # 1

Wayne Klostermann called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Klostermann, Ed Cawley and Chad Oberdoerster, Mike Buelow

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gayle Walter, Joe Suarez. One seat remains vacant

STAFF PRESENT: Jon Brown and Mary Rose Corrigan

Mary Rose Corrigan completed the Certification of Compliance with the Iowa Open Meetings Law.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mike Buelow moved to accept the Minutes of the July 6, 2010 meeting. Ed Cawley seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by a 4 – 0 by roll call vote.

TEST AGENDA:

No changes were made to the agenda.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Plastic Bags.

Wayne Klostermann distributed a printed PowerPoint presentation from *National Geographic News*, September 2, 2003, regarding data released by the US EPA on plastic bags from retail establishments. The Commission discussed research from Ireland, San Francisco and other facts about plastic bag policies in various communities.

After discussion, Ed Cawley moved to recommend the City Council adopt a policy of phasing out/minimizing the use of plastic bags in retail applications through the use of a user fee or incentive to use alternatives. Mike Buelow seconded the motion. Motion was passed with by a 4-0 roll call vote. A letter will be written to City Council explaining the motion, the phase in approach, and the goal to eliminate the use of retail plastic bags by 2014.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Urban Conservation Program.

Eric Schmeichel of the Dubuque Soil and Water Conservation District discussed the local Urban Conservation Program. He also forwarded a PowerPoint presentation with the details of the program to ESAC members. The program deals with water quality and soil conservation, with the ultimate goal of raising money through the City of Asbury,

Dubuque County and the City of Dubuque. The funds would be used to staff one or two people to bring grant money to the community in order to address the issues in the entire Catfish Creek Basin. The plan referenced in the PowerPoint is required in order to get grant funding. The goal is to improve water quality in the Mississippi River through improving local streams. At some point, this proposal will go to the City Council, probably in the next six months, and the Commission can support the proposal by writing a letter. Chad Oberdoerster moved to draft a letter of support for the Urban Conservation Program and the watershed management plan for the Catfish Creek Watershed to the City Council, along with funding to support the Dubuque portion listed in the plan. Mike Buelow seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 4-0 roll call vote.

**ITEMS FROM STAFF:
NEW BUSINESS:**

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:

1. Raki Giannakouros requested that the Commission request to receive the entire Greenhouse Gas Inventory document. Currently, this document has not been presented and only the municipal/city portion of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory is scheduled to go to City Council.

The ESAC requested Mary Rose Corrigan to ask Cori Burbach and the City Manager for the Greenhouse Gas Inventory document for the Commission to review.

2. Charlie Winterwood, Vice-President of the Tri-State Trail Vision, requests that the ESAC support a complete streets policy. The Commission will put this on a future agenda item.

CLARIFICATION OF TASKS:

Mary Rose Corrigan will draft a City Council letter regarding the banning of plastic bags. Mary Rose Corrigan will e-mail Eric Schmeichel's PowerPoint presentation to the Commission. Mary Rose Corrigan will draft a letter of support for the Urban Conservation Program. Mary Rose will follow-up on the Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Tri-State Trail Vision complete streets policy request. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Municipal Inventory and GHG complete inventory. Plastic bag letter of support.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

September 7, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT:

Ed Cawley moved to adjourn the meeting. Wayne Klostermann seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a 4-0 roll call vote at 6:16 p.m.

MRC/cj