

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP ADVISORY COMMISSION
DECEMBER 7, 2010
5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL ANNEX, 1300 MAIN, CONFERENCE ROOM # 1**

Wayne Klostermann called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gayle Walter. 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:

Chad Oberdoerster moved to accept the Minutes of the November 2, 2010 meeting. Mike Buelow seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the Minutes were approved by a 5 – 0 by roll call vote.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Complete Streets

Mary Rose Corrigan reported that the letter recommending Complete Streets was sent to the City Council on December 6, 2010. The City Council received and filed the information.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Oath of Office.

Completed the Oath of Office for Aditi Sinha.

ITEMS FROM STAFF.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Plastic Bag Recommendation Follow-up.

Mary Rose Corrigan reported that the staff Plastic Bag Task Force met with area grocers to solicit their ideas and what they are currently doing to reduce plastic bag usage. Several of the grocers are utilizing the “Build with Bags” program and also promoting recycling of plastic bags in their stores. Some stores are also offering a 5¢ incentive for each bag the customer brings in themselves. Staff has developed a spreadsheet of various communities where plastic bags have been eliminated or banned and she will share that with the Commission. The next meeting the task force scheduled with local retailers to discuss their needs and thoughts on plastic bag use elimination. An informational memo will be sent to City Council regarding the progress on the plastic bag issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Paul Schultz, Chuck Goddard and Scott Dittmar gave a presentation on recycling glass. Many problems exist with recycling glass and it actually is an expensive commodity due to the high cost of processing and high degree of contamination that occurs during the handling and recycling process. Scott Dittmar said that he believes that curbside glass should not be collected anymore. Twenty percent of the recycled glass collected now goes to the landfill anyway because of contamination, breakage, etc. Also, the glass is handled at least ten times before it is processed. Chuck Goddard discussed that there are limited uses for crushed glass, such as road base, etc., but gravel and other materials are much less expensive. All discussed the need for community education regarding glass recycling so that it doesn't appear that we are going backwards if the City eliminates collecting glass for recycling. The Commission will discuss this further at their next meeting.

CLARIFICATION OF TASKS:

Mary Rose Corrigan will forward a copy of the Complete Streets sent to City Council. Mary Rose will send the plastic bag inventory spreadsheet to the Commissioners.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Plastic bag ban task force update. Glass recycling.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

January 4, 2011. Ed Cawley will not be present.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mike Buelow moved to adjourn the meeting. Chad Oberdoerster seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a 5-0 roll call vote at 6:25 p.m.

MRC/cj