

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: 6:34 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present

Chris Stimpson
Linda Allison
Nathan Christianson
Jennifer Braun Paliszeski
Michael Fitch
Paul Schmiechen, Staff Liaison
Bridger Tomlin

Excused:

Maria Rotunda
Jennifer Fugita
Paul Farquhar

AGENDA APPROVAL:

A motion was made by **Jennifer BP**, seconded by **Linda**, to accept the meeting's agenda; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by **Linda**, seconded by **Jennifer BP**, to accept the minutes of the May 31st meeting; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment provided.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Recycling in Multi-family Housing**

Chris noted that at the Summer Block Party event, at which we featured composting and recycling, many visitors to the booth complained that they wanted to compost and/or recycle but lived in multi-family housing and were not able to. Was this an issue that City Council wished to address, perhaps by making facilities or services for composting/recycling mandatory in multi-family housing in Westminster? Paul explained that some apartment developments do not have adequate interior space for disposal of recycling materials. An alternative would be an outside dumpster, fenced and screened, perhaps next to the garbage dumpster. The problem, especially in smaller developments, might be finding suitable outside space. It would be more likely to happen if a significant number of residents made the request. Also, would leasing companies increase rents to cover their costs? Paul also made the point that the language exists for such improvements but is not in the development code.

Linda thought this might be possible with new builds.

Paul and **Bridger** agreed to check with property managers in the New Downtown for their status in this regard.

Paul noted that the Waste No More program in Denver has introduced such an ordinance, and that currently a task force is examining how this might be executed. The task force is to report in October. **Chris** agreed that he would await the task force's report and provide City Council with a summary, with the intention of giving Council baseline information for perhaps instituting a similar program here.

- **Neighborhood Sustainability Services Program**

The Neighborhood Sustainability Services Program (NSSP) was discussed. The program encompasses energy use, water, landscaping, waste, and community building, with financial assistance of up to \$2000 from the City, and currently involves 4 HOAs.

EAB's potential role in the NSSP was discussed. It was thought that EAB could be involved both in HOA and non-HOA neighborhoods, initially performing outreach via e-mail to HOA contacts and neighborhood leaders, pointing them to the website.

Neighborhoods and HOA contacts would have to be identified.

ACTION: Bridger to send out to board members the website details.

ACTION: Paul S to send out maps of Westminster HOAs.

ACTION: Board members to start gathering names of possible neighborhood leaders and pass to Bridger by next meeting.

When **Bridger** is ready to do outreach, EAB could use the letter for recruitment.

It was noted that Community Development might know some neighborhood leaders.

Linda suggested a green neighborhood award could be an incentive.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Tabling (Composting and Recycling)**

We tabled at the Summer Block Party on June 2nd, focusing on composting and recycling. Several visitors regretted not being able to compost or recycle since they lived in multi-unit housing that did not allow for that. **Paul S** said that Denver has a Waste No More bill that will mandate recycling in all developments of 8 or more dwellings, that a task force is currently examining how this should be implemented, and that their report

should be complete by October. **Chris** said that he would like to read that report for possible presentation to City Council.

- **Future Event Tabling**

We will table at the three ‘movies in the park’ events (June 30, July 15 and August 11) and Westy Fest. This was agreed.

STAFF REPORTS AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Retirement**

Paul S announced that he would be retiring in August.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Next Meeting: July 26th, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Secretary

The mission of the Environmental Advisory Board is to:

- Advise City Council and Staff on matters in the community pertaining to solid waste disposal, yard waste recycling, air quality enhancements, hazardous waste management; and storm water quality.
- Make recommendations to City Council and Staff regarding the development of city-wide community and/or neighborhood programs to address long range recycling and solid waste disposal issues; programs to address grass, tree limb, and leaf recycling; programs to address air quality enhancement such as ground-level ozone programs to address hazardous waste recycling and/or disposal and to educate the community and serve in an advisory capacity regarding storm water quality programs.
- Encourage citizen participation in community recycling efforts and promote public education on the environmental benefits of various community programs including curbside recycling, Christmas tree recycling, composting, ground level ozone action alerts, wood burning bans, and household hazardous waste disposal opportunities.
- Annual participation in community outreach programs such as the Earth Day/Arbor Day, Pride Day, school educational talks, and Westy Fest.