



Minutes

EPC REGULAR MEETING

February 24, 2020

7:30 – 09:30 PM

City Hall, Room 2000

Attendance

| EPC Members | | Staff |
|-------------------|---|------------------|
| Humza Arshad | E | Khoa Tran |
| Craig Berry | P | Rachel Stradling |
| Eldon Boes | E | Guests |
| Edith Cecchini | P | Steve Banashek |
| Kathie Hoekstra | P | |
| James Hook | E | |
| Praveen Kathpal | E | |
| Michael Kulas | E | |
| Michael Olex | P | |
| Brendan Owens | P | |
| Marta Schantz | P | |
| Carolyn Schroeder | E | |
| Reid Sherman | P | |

P: Present; **A:** Absent - Unexcused; **E:** Absent – Excused

| FY2020 Environmental Policy Commission Attendance Summary | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|
| Member's Name | 2019 | | | | | 2020 | | | | | | % Attendance |
| | Retreat (Sep 21) | Sep 30 | Oct 21 | Nov 18 | Dec 16 | Jan 27 | Feb 24 | Mar 16 | Apr 20 | May 18 | Jun 15 | |
| Brendan Owens | P | P | P | E | P | P | P | | | | | 100% |
| Carolyn Schroeder | E | P | P | P | P | P | E | | | | | 100% |
| Craig Berry | P | E | A | P | P | E | P | | | | | 86% |
| Eldon Boes | P | E | P | P | P | P | E | | | | | 100% |
| Humza Arshad | P | P | P | P | P | P | E | | | | | 100% |
| James Hook | E | E | P | P | P | P | E | | | | | 100% |
| Mike Kulas | P | E | P | P | P | P | E | | | | | 100% |
| Praveen Kathpal | P | P | P | P | P | P | E | | | | | 100% |
| Reid Sherman | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | | | | | 100% |
| Martha Schantz | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | | | | | 100% |
| Edith Cecchini | | | | P | P | P | P | | | | | 100% |
| Kathie Hoekstra | | | | P | P | P | P | | | | | 100% |
| Michael Olex | | | | | | P | P | | | | | 100% |

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

The Environmental Policy Commission meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Owens at 7:40PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Minutes for the January 27, 2020 meeting was approved unanimously without any change.
- Commissioners representing the EPC on other City commissions/committees and staff reported on current status with the following points or actions:
 - Commissioner Hoekstra again solicit input from all EPC members on the public survey to be conducted on Earth Day. Staff (Tran) mentioned about the tent talks and requested participation and topics from the commissioners for consideration by the Earth Day Planning Committee. The announcement for soliciting nominations for the Ellen Pickering Award and the deadline for nominations of March 25 were noted.
 - Commissioner Boes sent in the attached update on the Waterfront Commission.
 - Commissioner Sherman reported on a meeting between himself, Commissioner Arshad and staff to discuss the structure and membership of the Energy and Climate Change Task Force, an action item under the EAP 2040. Commissioner Hoekstra would like to be included in such discussions going forward since she has been assigned to the commission's energy and climate change focus area as well. Staff (Tran) subsequently informed the sustainability coordinator and a formal arrangement will have to be worked out with the Chair since by law, a meeting having three or more commissioners would have to be a public meeting with proper announcements.
 - Commissioner Berry reported that schedule for 2020 meetings for this advisory group has not come out to date. Based on information on the RiverRenew website, it appears that the December 2019 meeting was the final meeting for this RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group. A new Stakeholder Advisory Group will be formed during the construction phase of the Program.
 - Commissioner Hoekstra reported that the legislative proposal by the George Washington Middle School students has been passed by the state legislature.

4. Environmental Health Program Update

- Rachel Stradling, Environmental Health Manager of the Alexandria Health Department (AHD) made a brief presentation on the program.

- She mentioned that mold was highlighted in the Alexandria Community Health Assessment and that it was legislated at the state level.
- A task force on indoor air quality comprising staff from different City departments as been formed.
- AHD is in the process of creating an information brochure on mold and tracking system for mold reporting.

5. F21 Long Range Planning Interdepartmental Work Plan (LRPIWP)

- There was a question on the timing to send in EPC feedback on this document and staff (Tran) mentioned that the commission can provide input up to the Council decision in May. So, the final comment letter should be approved at the EPC April 20 meeting at the latest.
- EPC members were asked by Vice-Chair Owens to look at the LRPIWP and cross check it with EAP 2040 short- and medium-term objectives and actions.
- Staff to send out the focus area/responsibility matrix for EPC commissioners.
- Staff to work with the sustainability coordinator to develop a matrix comparing EAP2040 objectives/actions with items included in the LRPIWP and the FY21 proposed budget.

6. City Manager's FY21 Proposed Budget

- Vice-Chair Owens noted that several EAP actions were included in the proposed budget. He then sent to all members the October 2019 EPC budget letter for reference.
- EPC members were requested to send their budget input to Chair Praveen/ Vice-Chair Owens by March 9. A draft letter would then be prepared for commission approval at the March 16 meeting.
- There was a question regarding the proposed P&Z green building position. Staff subsequently verified with P&Z that this position was included in the P&Z proposed budget but it did not make to the City Manager's final proposed budget for FY21.

7. Other Items

- Commissioner Schantz asked about the status of the UDR RPA-exemption request. Staff subsequently reported that this request would be on the Planning Commission meeting agenda for March 3.
- Commissioner Cecchini was arranging a visit to the Covanta plant for March 26 and asked commissioners to let her know if they were interested in this visit.
- Regarding the the Duke Street Area Plan Update (item # 13 in the LRPIWP document), staff contact is Carrie Beach, Division Chief, at carrie.beach@alexandriava.gov.

8. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.
- The next meeting of the commission will be held at 7:30 PM, March 16, 2020.

DRAFT