

Environmental Policy Commission Minutes
September 20, 2010

7:30-7:35 Welcome and Introductions

See attendance list.

7:35-7:45: Public Comments: None

7:45-8:45 Staff and Committee Updates

- EPC Business Advisory Group: Bobby is interested in asking the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a website for EPC. According to Bill, the City will not support an outside organization hosting a website for a commission.
- Outreach Calendar: No Update
- Volunteer Recruitment: Peter continues to suggest that the EPC host a roundtable/open forum discussion to give an update and provide a call to action for volunteers.
- Environmental Coordination Group: According to Bill, the Eco-City coordinator is not yet a full time position, but the City has promoted Jesse to act in this capacity on a part-time basis in the interim.
- Mirant PRGS: City Council endorsed “bag house technology” in response to Mirant asking the City to identify the risks of the project. The City finalized the report on the matter, and submitted it to the Commonwealth for informational purposes only. Mirant did not object to any provision of the report but fell short of a fully endorsing the report. At this point, the project engineer is preparing the project to be bid out. The schedule for implementation is unclear. The settlement agreement does not specify a timeline. The report concluded the risks of airborne fine particulate matter are comparable to other areas in the DC/Northern Virginia area.

8:45 – 9:00 PM Progress on Environmental Indicators: Bill presented members with a draft of the environmental indicators publication. This publication shows the evidential progress made by the city since adopting the Environmental Action Plan. According to him, the City plans to present a report to Council by the fall. The initial goal was Fall of 2010.

EPC Member Pat Hagan likes the project and encourages participation with GIS personnel.

EPC Member Peter Pennington suggests that the green building mapping be included in the report.

EPC Scott Barstow asks if Bob will maintain 6 of the 21 indicators.

OEQ Assist. Director Bill answers: No, he hopes to develop a broader metrics for the report.

Bill says that feedback is welcome and will continue to keep the EPC apprised of progress.

9:00 – 9:10 Legislative Priorities:

The Chair of the EPC transmitted a letter to the Legislative Director for the City of Alexandria, Bernard Caton, to express support for SB109, the Green Bldgs Act.

9:10-9:30 Administrative Items:

- EPC Chair, Jennifer Hovis, submitted the annual report to the full EPC with additions from Scott. The EPC motioned to approve the report with the ability to make changes.
- Approval of the July minutes: The EPC moved to approve the minutes for the July meeting.
- Attendance Annual Report
- EPC Picnic & Retreat: All in attendance agreed that the annual EPC picnic and retreat were a success.

The work session adjourned at 9:30 PM.