

**Environmental Policy Commission Minutes
November 21, 2011**

✓ = EPC Members in Attendance; X = EPC Members Absent

✓	Peter Pennington - Chair	✓	Phil Voorhees	X	Danielle Fidler
✓	Josh Sawislak	✓	Jennifer Hovis	X	Rebecca Jablon
✓	Kristen Nelson	✓	Geoffrey Goode	X	Scott Barstow
✓	Heather Schaefer	✓	Patrick Hagan	X	Bobby Croghan

City Staff: Khoa Tran, Stiles Peabody, Bill Skrabak, Bill Eger, Erin-Bevis-Carter

Guest: Mike Youshock, Virginia American Water Company, Norm Goulet, Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC).

Begin 7:40 PM

Welcome and Introductions

- Josh Sawislak and Kristen Nelson were welcomed as new members of the EPC

Public Comment

- None

NVRC Drinking Water Supply Plan – PowerPoint presentation by Norm Goulet and Erin Bevis-Carter

- Virginia enacted law requiring every county, city and town to develop a regional water supply plan. Law was enacted after droughts in the late 1990's-2000.
- Plan is more of an inventory than an actual plan. Inventoried current water supply and usage against projected demand in 2040.
- A surplus is forecasted however, it could be depleted by a moderate drought.
- Conservation practices, water management, and new quarries have resulted in per capita decrease in water use. Alexandria is performing better than other cities in the State.
- Climate change scenarios are not considered in the current Plan. Climate change will be taken into consideration during the update of the Plan in 5 years.
- The City will need to revise its ordinances to incorporate key components of the Drought Awareness Response Plan.
- Plan will be presented to the City Council on December 17. The Plan is available for public review and comment.

Recycling Program – powerpoint presentation by Stiles Peabody

- Solid Waste Division collects 24,000 tons of trash from 19,000 residents, annually.
- Achieved Eco-City goal as recycling is now at 41%. Recycling generated \$436,500 for general fund.
- RFID tags have not been implemented, yet.
- Alley recycling program will start in November 2011. Looking to expand composting program, especially for vegetation and yard debris in 2012.
- There are four public drop-off recycling centers. The fifth one will be located on the south side of the City.
- The new hazardous waste center and electronics collection site is open at 3224 Colvin Street.
- Need to strengthen recycling by commercial entities. Some commercial buildings do not have recycling bins.

- In 2011, emphasized Earth Day and America Recycles Day. In 2012, hope to conduct more public education and outreach.

Earth Day Update: by Jennifer Hovis

- In 2012, the Earth Day theme will be "Eco-City". Many of the 2011 sponsors will again support the 2012 event.
- Currently, two people are co-leading the planning of the event.

Master Class: Peter Pennington

- With new EPC members, Peter would like to host a class on the Eco-City Action Plan, as nearly all of the EPC work stems from items in the Plan.
- Peter will circulate some dates for the class.

Staff Update on Environmental Indicators: Khoa Tran

- Action Plan has 134 items; 62 items are completed; working on 25.
- Need to ensure that significant environmental standards are included in the "Quality of Life" standards under development by the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria.
- First Eco-City report will be issued on Earth Day 2012. EPC should consider how to display indicators as a "score card."
- City Hall is getting a green roof today.

Water Front Meeting: Peter Pennington

- Environmental planning is supported by people as part of Eco-City efforts.
- Power plant will need some remediation before land can be developed.
- Dash Bus Company now has 5 hybrid buses!! Significant achievement due to the efforts of the EPC.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting: Phil Voorhees

- Reviewed retention pond at Fort Ward Park

EPC Votes

- Unanimously elected Peter Pennington as the EPC's Waterfront liaison.
- Unanimously approved the Council Budget Letter to the Council
- Unanimously approved the minutes from the October 17th and November 7, 2011, EPC meetings.

December 5 meeting will start at 6:30 PM and at Covanta. EPC will tour the facility and dinner will be provided afterwards.

Adjourned at 9:35 PM