

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD

December 2009

Regular Meeting

Municipal Building, Training Room

December 3, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order
 - 1. Introduction of EQAB members and recognition of visitors
 - 2. Recognition of Recording Secretary:
 - 3. Amendments to the Agenda
 - 4. Announcements
- B. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting Held November 5, 2009
- C. Action Items Update
- D. Presentations
- E. High School Representatives (Mike Burns, Courtney Walls)
- F. Report on DOE-related matters (from EQAB Regulatory Oversight Committee and DOE representative David Page)
- G. Communications
- H. City Staff (Athanasia Senecal)
 - 1. Press Releases, Publicity, and the Media
 - 2. Pedestrian/Bicycle committee
 - 3. Energy Audit Update
- I. Planning Commission (Chuck Agle)
 - 1. Melton Hill Waterfront Redevelopment (Schedule and Progress Update)
- J. Special Projects
 - 1. Sustainability (Green) Initiative
 - a. Actions Items from November 23 Work Session with City Council
 - 2. Outdoor Burning
 - 3. EQAB Website
 - a. Visitation and Publicity
 - b. Website Updates
- K. Reports on External Organizations
 - 1. Local Oversight Committee/Citizens Advisory Panel
 - 2. Keep Anderson County Beautiful
 - 3. Other Projects
- L. Unfinished Business
 - 1. Invasive Weed Awareness Week Proclamation

- M. New Business
 - 1. Oak Ridge Rotary Club Presentation
 - 2. Annual Report
 - 3. How we set our Agenda

- N. Adjournment

EQAB Work Session Schedule:

To be determined

Noteworthy Public Meetings/Events

Thursday, December 10, 7 AM to 9 PM: TCWP Holiday Celebration; Home of Bill Allen and Jenny Freeman (371 East Drive, Oak Ridge); Please bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvre to share

cc: City Manager
City Clerk
Amy Fitzgerald
Athanasia Senecal
Laura Davis, Fire Dept.
Steve Byrd, City Engineer
Oak Ridger
News-Sentinel
Oak Ridge Observer

Minutes from EQAB meeting on November 5, 2009

Present:

Jimmy Groton
R. Boyd Carter
Fred Stephens
Pat Fain
Pat Imperato
Joan Nelson
Chuck Agle

Absent:

Robert Kennedy-excused
Joe Wood-excused
Bruce Nigh
Mike Burns
Courtney Walls

Guests:

Lou Arnold, observer from the League of Women Voters

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. A quorum was established. Lou Arnold was recognized as an observer from the League of Women Voters and introductions were made.

Joan Nelson was recognized as the Recording Secretary.

Two items were added to the agenda. Earth Day 2010 was added under Unfinished Business. Solar Seminar was added.

The minutes from October 1, 2009 were approved.

No action item update was available. There was a question as to the status of Ken Krushenski's inquiries into the legalities of piggybacking on Knoxville's groundwork with their performance based contract with AMERESCO in case it becomes an option the city might pursue. The responsibility for that action had been assumed by Athanasia.

No presentations were scheduled for this meeting.

The High School representatives were not present to report. Jimmy did report that he has established contact again with Deni Sobek and that the Environmental Club at the High School is active again. It is still one of Jimmy's action items to get in contact with Nita Ganguly.

The representative from DOE was not present. Jimmy informed us that the Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for Y-12 is the subject of two hearings to solicit comments and provide information. They are Nov. 17 from 6:30 to 9 PM and Nov. 18 from 10 AM to 12:30 PM at the New Hope Center, 602 Scarboro Road in Oak Ridge. There is also news about a proposed parking structure at ORNL that will destroy a pond and wetlands. Comments to Gary S. Hartman, PO Box 2001, Oak Ridge, TN 37831.

No city staff report.

Chuck Agle had no new report from Planning Commission. He will attempt to send us an electronic copy of the Draft Report for the riverfront development.

We discussed three projects in process. One being the Sustainability Report. A schedule for the sustainability report is as follows:

Work sessions at the Municipal Building as follows:

Friday Nov. 6, 10am-3pm

Monday Nov. 9, 10am-3pm

Monday Nov. 16, 10am-3pm

Wednesday Nov. 18, 7:00pm

Monday Nov. 23, time to be determined, perhaps 6 or 6:30 pm.

Outdoor burning is being addressed in the Sustainability Report. Pat Imperato has this assignment.

Jimmy received a series of communications between Norris Recycle Commission, Ellen Smith, Jim O'Connor, and Doug McGill about recycling practices at RockTenn, the subcontractor for Waste Connections. Broken glass is reportedly not being recycled but is going to the landfill. Other reasons that Norris is not using RecycleBank program were included

The Board took note of the grant from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act to the Oak Ridge City Center LLC, partnering with ORNL, for the development of geothermal demonstration project as part of the mall renovation. We agreed this would be a good topic for a future presentation for the Board. No action taken at this time.

Fred Stephens pointed out that the future of the EQAB website will need to be decided. Who will maintain it and what information it will include will need to be determined by the spring when the domain names will lapse.

There were no reports from external organizations. Boyd reported that LOC had not met since last meeting. Jimmy mentioned that DOE has shipped waste (oil contaminated with mercury and tritium) to DSSI to burn. Anderson County Solid Waste Board has not met recently. Joan Nelson did have a phone conversation with Gary Cinder. It was noted that our recycle waste had increased. Last September the tonnage was 98 at the curb and 49 at the convenience center. This September it was 234 tons curbside and 46 tons at the convenience center. During the phone conversation it was also mentioned the state will be changing regulations to require municipalities to divert waste through recycling. At present the requirements apply to counties.

Under unfinished business we discussed plans to be a Presenter of Earth day, 2010. Pat Imperato has written a memo for Jimmy to send to the city manager about our being a Presenter and clear this with city staff. This is an action item for Jimmy Groton. Pat Imperato and Joan Nelson attended the planning session of the Earth Day Committee on Thursday at 1:30pm. Joan Nelson and Fred Stephens will craft a proposal for EQAB to organize a "Grand Prius" race for Earth day and to celebrate the beginning of the Sustainability Project. This proposal should be complete for December meeting. Issues involved and feasibility will be addressed.

Jimmy passed along a request from Athanasia that we commit to sponsoring a Solar Seminar in Oak Ridge on November 14th. A motion to do that was made and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Joan Nelson