



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

Regular Meeting- November 7th, 2024

The Waynesville Environmental Sustainability Board held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 7th, 2024, at 4:30 pm. in the Recreation Center located at 550 Vance Street Waynesville, NC.

Members present:

William Hite (Chair)
Case Brown (alternate)
Paul Carlson
Besty Wall
Reid Conway (Vice Chair)
Aparna Keshaviah
David Henderson
Mary Kayler
Price Berryhill
Kay Kirkman
Buffy Queen

Members Absent:

Staff Members Present:

Julie Grasty, Asset Services Manager

Others Present:

Nathan Cartwright, Peer Support Specialist

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman William Hite called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

B. APPROVAL OF 10/21/2024 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Board Member Carlson, seconded by Board Member Berryhill, to approve the minutes from the October 21st, 2024 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

C. DISCUSSION OF JOINT MEETING WITH TOW PARKS AND REC BOARD

Chairman Hite suggested that the ESB gets together with the Recreation Advisory Commission to discuss rebuilding recreational facilities after Helene. Board Member Dickson suggested meeting with the Planning Board Chair and Vice Chair as well. Board Member Kirkman said it would be good to learn about the long-term plan of the Recreation Advisory Commission. She also suggested discussing with them how to make the rec center an emergency shelter in the future.

D. RESUME C-LEAP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLANNING: OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE END OF YEAR

Chairman Hite reported that they had a community meeting as required by NREL. He asked the Board if there are any expectations for the remainder of the year for engagement opportunities. Board Member Brown suggested working on the website.

Board Member Wall said community partners could be contacted before the new year. Board Member Dickson said the posters are currently displayed in Town Hall. He suggested that the Planning Board looks at the scope of work.

E. C-LEAP RE-ENGAGEMENT WITH NREL CONSULTANTS

Chairman Hite said they will be meeting with the NREL consultants on the 14th. Board Member Brown said the meeting will be about planning the work plan, then re-engagement will take place in the new year after that work is carried out.

F. UPDATES OF ONGOING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

A board member reported that the Resilient Haywood EPA grant has been submitted.

G. DISCUSSION OF MEETING FREQUENCY AND BOARD CAPACITY

Chairman Hite reported that most other boards meet once a month. After some discussion, the Board decided to set the meetings for once a month, on the first Thursday of each month. He said the meeting in January will be the second Thursday because of New Years. He requested that subgroups get their agenda items into him no later than the Thursday before the meeting.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Hite said that this Saturday 11am-1pm, there will be an engineer speaking at First United Methodist about electric grids and new technology. He said there will be another speaker discussing electric charging stations. He added there will be an electric vehicle demonstration and test drive opportunity.

Ms. Grasty said the Finance Building will have all LED lights once it's remodeled.

Board Member Henderson mentioned that some students from WCU may present their Capstone project to Council in the future.

I. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Board Member Wall, seconded by Vice Chair Conway, to adjourn the meeting at 5:37pm. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

William Hite, Board Chair

Candace Poolton, Town Clerk