



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

Regular Meeting

August 1st, 2024

The Waynesville Environmental Sustainability Board held a regular meeting on Thursday, August 1st, 2024, at 4:30 pm. in the Municipal Building Conference Room located at 16 South Main Street Waynesville, NC.

Members present:

William Hite (Chair)
Case Brown (alternate)
Paul Carlson
Kay Kirkman
Chuck Dickson
Buffy Queen
Besty Wall
Reid Conway (Vice Chair)

Members Absent:

Aparna Keshaviah
David Henderson

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. APPROVAL OF 7/18/2024 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Board Member Carlson, seconded by Board Member Wall, to approve the minutes from the July 18th, 2024 meeting as amended, to reflect that Betsy Wall was in attendance. The motion passed unanimously.

C. NREL MEETING UPDATE

Board Member Brown reported that soon there will be a presentation on microgrids and solar integration into the grids available to town staff. He said that Mr. Hites had requested for NREL to consult on AMI.

D. AMIs AND ELECTRICITIES VISIT

Chairman Hite reported that the ElectriCities meeting is on August 15th meeting. Mr. Hites added that they are going to discuss how electric distribution systems work and how different clean energy devices (solar, wind) are physically collected. Vice Chair Conway added that customer survey results will be presented.

E. NCFS TREE MAINTENANCE GRANT

Board Member Kirkman said the grant proposal has been submitted and the grant is for \$101,000 for deferred tree maintenance.

F. EPA GREENWAY UPDATE

Board Member Carlson reported that the Southern Appalachian Highland Conservancy is leading the efforts for the Community Change grant. He said the goal of the grant is to fund connecting the greenway and assist with flood mitigation along the Pigeon River.

G. US DOE C2C TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITY

Chairman Hite reported that at the site visit with NREL, they decided they will wait until mid-October to decide what areas to focus on, such as on-site battery storage. He said there could be opportunities to work on other things outside of the larger scope.

H. ESB VACANCIES

Chairman Hite said there are two vacancies on the board. He requested that the Board helps recruit potential members.

I. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Hite said that six months ago, he volunteered the ESB to participate in Grace Church's EcoFair on August 17th 9:30am-1pm. He said it would be a great opportunity to table and interact with the general public.

Board Member Dickson said he will be presenting to Town Council at the August 13th meeting about the ESB and the things they are working on.

J. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Board Member Wall, seconded by Board Member Dickson, to adjourn the meeting at 5:35pm. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Board will be held on Thursday, August 15th at 4:30pm, located at 16 S. Main Street.

ATTEST:

William Hite, Board Chair

Candace Poolton, Town Clerk

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