

MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD
MARCH 10, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Katherine Arnett, Tim Pritchard, Sarah Richard,
Kathleen Turner (virtually), Brian Williams, Matthew Worsham,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott Eardley, Hillery Spearman

STAFF PRESENT: Isabelle Blackwell, Eric Borth, Mary Faulkner, Paul Fleischman,
Felicia Graham, Julie Height, Darius Hixon, Chris Lipson, Meg Maloney,
Carolyn Moore, John Musto, Michael Powell, Zak Schultz,
Michele Simmons

OTHERS PRESENT: Sarah Holod – Public Health – Dayton and Montgomery County
Walt Hibner – CenterPoint Energy
John Woodman – Solid Waste District
Jamie Burenga – UD Student

Chairperson, Katherine Arnett, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Citizens' Concerns: There were none.

Approval of the February 2023 Minutes: Chairperson Katherine called for a motion to accept the minutes from the February 2023 meeting. Tim Pritchard made a motion to accept the minutes. Sarah Richard seconded the motion; a vote was taken, and the minutes were accepted.

Staff Items: Source Water: Darius Hixon shared that inspections are continuing along with their education efforts. They are also receiving questions about the East Palestine train derailment. PFAS testing numbers are staying consistent. There will be a tour for the EPA this Monday, visiting the Carco site and WPAFB. Zak Schultz shared they are increasing inspections and doing them along with the Fire Department. Eric Borth gave an update on the inventory database for SDS sheets. DEM is working with the Fire Department on search warrants for properties that are not accessible. Storm Water: Felicia Graham stated that the Children's Water Festival will be held on May 10th. She is looking for an EAB liaison, which Chairperson Katherine Arnett quickly volunteered. Felicia also shared that the High School Career Conference is being held on May 3rd at UD Arena. She is also looking for volunteers to speak about their careers at this event. The Storm Water group submitted their Annual Report to the EPA and will send out a link to the website.

Sustainability: Meg Maloney shared that they are coordinating with DRG, Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council and Five River MetroParks on "Earth Day-Ton", from April 16 through May 7. There will be a tree seedling giveaway, native plant sale, scavenger hunts, etc. based on a passport theme. They are working on several grants, one for \$1,000,000 for solar systems for ventilation systems in homes and businesses associated with the Behr Superfund site. Another grant through the Neighborhood Association to work with Dayton Children's Hospital for screening children within the 45404-zip code. Michele Simmons talked about "What You Can Do in the Community" to get involved with sustainability information on the website. Chairperson Katherine Arnett asked about Paul Knoop Prairie. There is nothing new after the RFP failed. Mark Charles will be reaching out to vendors asking for proposals. They will be asking Mark for an update for the next meeting. Meg was also instrumental in saving a resident \$641 on their CenterPoint energy bill.

Valleycrest: Meg Maloney announced that construction has restarted and is on track to be completed between July and August this year. There will be a meeting on March 20 at the Polish Club to give updates on the solar installation.

Economic Development: No update. There was a question concerning the “Rails to Trails Project. Susan Vincent in Planning is organizing and asked the Sierra Club for a letter of support. They are in negotiations with Norfolk Southern Railway on Price and hoping to finalize in early 2024. We hope to have Susan give an update soon.

Public Health, Dayton and Montgomery County: Sarah Holod shared that her work aligns with Dayton’s SWPP as the work is for the same program.

Solid Waste District: John Woodman shared that the next Styrofoam collection date will be in Humber Heights. A reminder letter will be sent. The new drop off hours for the main facility is going well and had approximately 400 cars last Tuesday. The advice is come early or risk waiting in line. There will be a litter pick up competition with prizes, partnering with the Dayton Dragons.

Five Rivers MetroParks: Tim Pritchard shared that they will be having the Adopt A Park program again on Earth Day, April 22nd, community cleanup. Tim highlighted a new program ECO Talks, with guest speakers on ecological issues. The series is on March 21st. The Climate Change Mitigation Strategy has been adopted and is being implemented. They are gathering feedback and opinions, climate literacy and perspective on MetroParks’ role. Please let Tim know if interested in participating in the short survey. The EAB has previously provided a letter of support for the Tedd Renewables Project in Trotwood. The project is asking for MetroParks review for plans, species selection, etc. and have MetroParks name on the solar prairie.

University of Dayton: Sarah Richard shared that the Energy Assessment Bootcamp had 20 students and hope to expand the program. There are three Sustainability Fellowships, next step is to review the applications. There is an Energy Analyst, Communication and Outreach position, and the Dayton Sprouts Counselor position that will be filled with the awardees.

Old Business: Chairperson Katherine Arnett asked if the grant information was disseminated to Dayton Public Schools as requested at the last meeting. Meg Maloney confirmed that it had.

New Business: Chairperson Katherine Arnett reiterated that there is still one board position still open. She would like to see a candidate familiar with environmental law but is more important to have diversity and technical background, especially in ground water. The board does not want to discourage anyone. Several possible candidates were mentioned.

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Katherine Arnett asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Sarah Richard and seconded by Tim Pritchard. The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.