

MINUTES

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Pritchard, Niani Brown, Sarah Richard, Kathleen Turner, Brian Williams, Matthew Worsham, Hannah McClure, Assoc. Member, Caroline Turnbull, Assoc. Member

MEMBERS ABSENT: Katherine Arnett, Scott Eardley, Hillery Spearman

STAFF PRESENT: Paul Fleischman, Felicia Graham, Julie Height, Keith Klein, Meg Maloney, Carolyn Moore, John Musto, Zak Schultz, Michele Simmons

OTHERS PRESENT: Leslie King – MVRPC
John Woodman – Solid Waste District
Jason Turner – Public Health – Dayton and Montgomery County
Matthew Tyler – Public Health – Dayton and Montgomery County
Walt Hibner – CenterPoint Energy
Cory Frolik – Dayton Daily News

Vice Chairperson Tim Pritchard called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. and introductions were made. There were no Citizens' Concerns.

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

Staff Items: Zak Schultz shared that inspections are continuing, but a recent inspection needed an administrative search warrant to access the property. This was a new procedure for the division. The aquifer water levels are being monitored to compare with last year's levels. The data shows that the recharge lagoons play a big part in where the water is drawn from the aquifer. Paul Fleischman shared that there was cooperation across many City departments in obtaining the search warrant. They are working closely with the Fire Department to continuously train employees in responding to environmental emergencies. Felicia Graham announced that The City of Dayton is receiving a Gold Level Award for Encouraging Environmental Excellence from the Ohio EPA. This award was applied for in a joint effort between the Environmental Management Division of the Department of Water and the Sustainability Office. There will be an awards ceremony on September 18th in Columbus. Felicia also mentioned that Environmental Management will be having a booth at the Subaru Outdoor Experience, October 7th & 8th, and encouraged board members to help man the booth. A link will be provided for registration.

Sustainability: Meg Maloney shared that Bloomberg's Philanthropies approached them at the end of July concerning applying for a climate collaboration accelerator program. The City of Dayton was one of 40 cities asked to apply, due to our sustainability plans and high diversity within the population. The program helps accelerate sustainability programming and bring wealth to minority communities. Out of the 40 cities, 25 will be awarded three sustainability staff, fully paid by Bloomberg, for three years. There will be a secondary application/interview process in November and the selection will be announced in January. Michele Simmons shared that an EPOC grant is being applied for two of the City of Dayton buildings that achieved a Level 2 Certified Assessment and can achieve a 15% energy efficiency savings. If awarded, up to \$250,000 per application, to implement recommended energy savings, will be awarded. The application is due October 31st. Another funding opportunity is being investigated through the National Renewable Energy Labs for energy efficiency funding and technical support. Meg also mentioned that an RFP was

released on Friday for solar at the old Sherwin Williams site. A vendor site visit will take place on September 21st. The Solar United Neighbors Co-op was launched for our residential sector. They are about to close the business and non-profit co-op. Businesses and non-profits can enroll in the program through the University of Dayton and receive a free energy audit and discounted rate on their solar. The City of Dayton plans to convert our fleet to all electric has made Dayton a candidate for technical assistance with the conversion. More details to come.

Economic Development: Keith Klein shared that several employees attended the National Brownfields Conference in Detroit recently. He called attention to a redevelopment in Indianapolis called the Bottle Works, which was an old Coca Cola factory and is now a mixed-use food hall and commercial hotel space in a disadvantaged neighborhood. He encouraged a visit if in the area. The housing development and industrial market is strong right now.

Public Health, Dayton and Montgomery County: Jason Turner spoke about mosquito spraying, the criteria to indicate spraying is needed, what product is used, when spraying is done, and the notification given beforehand. Information will be sent via email with details.

Solid Waste District: John Woodman mentioned the Tire Buy Back event will happen on September 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Solid Waste District receives an average of 12,000 tires each year from this event.

Five Rivers MetroParks: Tim Pritchard shared that fall foliar spraying throughout the parks for invasive species has started. There will be a Fall Fest tomorrow at Sycamore Farm in Trotwood. ADA improvements at Second Street Market have been completed. There is also an RFP for solar for the Second Street Market, which should be completed later this year. Drive Electric Dayton has been having a monthly drive-in also at the Second Street Market. The next one will be Sunday, September 24th. MetroParks will also be participating in the Subaru Outdoor Experience and are looking for volunteers. This will be a waste-free event.

University of Dayton: Sarah Richard shared that the move-in cardboard collection program was successful. There were 1.86 tons of cardboard collected. The campus-wide sustainability theme goals were released two weeks ago, and the projects will be announced later. Sarah was interviewed by Commissioner Joseph for his Green Dayton video series on the City's YouTube channel.

MVRPC: Leslie King shared that Fabrice Juin and Gayle Covington Fowler were panelists at the recent Detroit Brownfield Conference. Fabrice, Regional Equity Manager, is willing to review grants from an equity justice perspective. Several MVRPC personnel will attend the National Association for Development Organizations Conference in November, which will have a focus on Brownfields. MVRPC has selected a technical advisory group to use regionally for climate planning grants, especially the Primary Climate Action Planning (PCAP). Applications for funding will be open for submission in the Spring. The last large scale tree planting will be on September 23rd at Top of the Market. A link with details will be sent.

Old Business: Niani Brown will take the lead on the meeting accessibility issue. She suggested encouraging youth, sending information home with students, and using social media. She is willing to have an email address so that she can answer public questions. Board members engaging the public and posting meeting minutes are some of the suggestions that were discussed.

New Business: None

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Chairperson Tim Pritchard asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Brian Williams and seconded by Sarah Richard. The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.