AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
April 17, 2024

Hybrid Meeting In-person and via Zoom

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82138211183?pwd=U2hQbDRxaW53L05YK1hiVmo0MS9zdz09

Meeting ID: **821 3821 1183**
Passcode: **563460**

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

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CITY OF ELLENSBURG
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA
Council Conference Room
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom
Wednesday, April 17, 2024
5:15 PM - Regular Meeting

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call of Members**
2. **Approval of Agenda** (No Public Comment)
3. **Approval of Minutes**
   - 3.A March 20, 2024 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
4. **Citizen Comment**
5. **New Business**
   - 5.A June 19, 2024 Holiday Closure
6. **Unfinished Business**
7. **Bicycle Advisory**
   - 7.A Bike Month Planning
8. **Staff Update/Discussion Items**
   - 8.A Arbor Day Tree Giveaway Program Expansion
9. **Adjournment**

For more information on the Environmental Commission, contact Planner Laura Wilson at 509-962-7235.

CITY OF ELLENSBURG **Minutes of Environmental Commission, Regular Meeting**

Date of Meeting **March 20, 2024**

Time of Meeting **5:15 PM**

Place of Meeting **Council Conference Room**
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

Jean Marie Linhart called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

Present: Jean Marie Linhart, Jess Black, Raven Harlin, Brenda Devore, Kristine Steinkoenig
Absent: Aaron Peterson
Excused: Christina Wollman
Also Present: Jeremy Johnston-Planning Manager, Kathy Boots-Planning Technician, Dan Carlson-Community Development Director, Nancy Lillquist-City Council Liaison, Heidi Behrends Cerniwey- City Manager, Nichole Baker-Sustainability & Energy Coordinator, Buddy Stanavich- Power & Gas Manager, Dave Dunbar, Meghan

Commissioner Black motioned to excuse the absence of Christina Wollman. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Approval of Agenda

No change in agenda

3. Approval of Minutes

3.A February 21, 2024 Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Devore motioned to approve the February 21, 2024, regular meeting minutes. Motion passed 5-0.

4. New Business

4.A Arbor Day Tree Giveaway Program Expansion Proposal
Nichole Baker reviewed the current Arbor Day Tree Giveaway program. The current program will remain in place. New funding has been secured. The new proposal would give away around 30 more trees, and they don't have to be planted in the right of way. This will start next month and addresses L-1.5 of the new sustainability plan regarding green space and tree canopy cover.
Commissioner Black motioned to approve the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway Program Expansion Proposal and forward it to City Council for approval. Motion passed 5-0.

5. Unfinished Business

5.A Comprehensive Plan Update
Jeremy Johnston asked members of the Commission if they had any suggestions for the Comprehensive Plan update. Since the new sustainability plan will become part of the update, the members did not have additional information to add. Johnston will come back to the Commission in the future.

5.B Sustainability Energy Plan Strategies
Staff members Behrends Cerniwey and Baker discussed the Sustainability Energy Plan. Grants have been applied for and will likely dictate the priority of actions. The City Council will prioritize policies. Once those are established, the Commission can decide how to take action in a cost-effective manner. Changing the Commission's name was contemplated, but the consensus was to keep the name the same or keep "Environmental" in the title. For the next meeting, the roles and responsibilities of the Commission will be reviewed. Does the Commission want a larger group, including a voting liaison, add a CWU member, etc.?

6. Bicycle Advisory

6.A Bike Month Event Discussion
Nancy Lillquist stated there will be an event at the Farmer's market on May 18, 2024, from 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. with educational materials, helmet fitting, safety checks, possible bike lights, bike bells, tube recycling, and bike exchanges. A couple of bike rides will be scheduled for varying experience levels. For bike month, there are many event days, such as "ride bike to market day", in addition to bike rentals available in Roslyn. Bike safety, bike adventure riders will do presentations, and theft protection will be included during the month. There are possible grants from Cascade bicycle club for two grade school age programs.

6.B Bicycle Friendly Community Report Card
The Commission members will need to prioritize actions. Devore will look into the definition of "bicycle friendly business" in the report card. How to evaluate ridership was discussed. Other areas of the report card that received low numbers will be clarified and looked at to increase the score possibly.

6.C Correspondance from Devorah Greenspan
Public Works had submitted comments in response to the correspondence from Devorah Greenspan. It is agreed that biking on Water Street presents challenges due to all the traffic and reduced space. The bike lane has an uneven lip and chip seal which creates issues. More education involving the public turning and looking for riders before opening the car door is needed. The four-way signs at Dry Creek and Reecer Creek are in the Kittitas County Jurisdiction. Dan Carlson will create a letter of response.

7. Citizen Comment
None

8. Staff Update/Discussion Items
None

9. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

2024 ARBOR DAY

STREET TREE GIVEAWAY

City of Ellensburg

- Pick up an application from City Hall, starting April 8th.
- Please return your application by April 24th.
- Last day to pick up your tree is May 2nd.

One Arbor Day Tree is available per applicant; corner lots may be eligible for two trees, depending on demand. City Staff will approve the tree species and planting location of trees within the right-of-way. If there is not space available in the right-of-way to plant a tree, a limited number of trees are available for planting on private property.

Please contact the Public Works & Utility office at (509) 962-7230 for more information.

City of Ellensburg WASHINGTON

811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Growth Award TREE CITY USA An Arbor Day Foundation Program