



MINUTES
OXFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING 15 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE. OXFORD, OHIO 45056
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025 AT 7:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

Environmental Commission members present include: Jon Ralinovsky, Chair; Chantel Raghu, Vice-Chair and City Council Representative; Jason Bracken, Planning Commission Representative and City Council Member; Peggy Branstrator; Jim Vinch; Michael Vanni. There was a quorum present.

Staff present includes: Reena Murphy, Sustainability Coordinator.

Motion to approve the agenda: Mr. Bracken

Second: Mr. Vanni

Vote: Unanimous approval

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes from the February 5th 2025 meeting

Motion: Ms. Branstrator

2nd: Mr. Bracken

Vote: Unanimous approval

Old Business

New Business

1. Letter of Support for ODNR Grant

Staff informed the commission that we intend to request funding from ODNR to remove 40 Callery pear trees and plant 60 trees. The pear tree removals and replacements will occur in the

Uptown District. The 20 additional trees will be planted within the disadvantaged census tracts by the Inflation Reduction Act. This project is in alignment with the City's annual goals, comprehensive plan, and climate action plan.

Motion to approve the letter of support: Mr. Bracken

2nd: Ms. Branstrator

Vote: Unanimous approval

2. Member Updates:

- City Council
- OPTAB
- Planning Commission
- OCASC

Updates from City Council included updates on the OATS transportation project. OPTAB, Planning, and OCASC did not meet or did not have updates relevant to the commission.

3. Staff Updates

Staff shared that we did not proceed with the Advanced Energy Fund application, as we did not have enough eligible projects with a favorable ROI.

Staff also requested assistance with the waste stations at the upcoming Bee Festival on April 12th.

4. Discussion of Commercial Recycling Requirement

- "S3-A1: Require all commercial properties, including multi-unit apartment complexes, to recycle"

The commission discussed the comprehensive plan goal to require recycling at commercial properties. Staff shared a timeline of actions taken so far, which include:

- Commissioning a PSP project regarding recycling at multi-family housing
- Applying for OEPA funding to implement PSP recommendations for an education campaign
- Submitting an application for a summer fellow to assist with waste management

The commission then discussed what resources and changes a successful implementation of a recycling mandate would require.

All commissioners agreed that they'd like to see a recycling mandate. However, there was no consensus on whether a recycling mandate / enforcement should be a priority for our sustainability efforts.

Adjournment

Motion: Ms. Raghu

2nd: Mr.Bracken

Vote: Unanimous approval

The commission adjourned at 8:15pm.