ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

The Environmental Advisory Board of the City of Raleigh held a meeting on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 303, Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 West Hargett Street, Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, Raleigh, North Carolina, with the following present:

BOARD MEMBERS
Anya Gordon, Chair
Rob Gelblum, Vice Chair
Laurel Passera
Justin Senkbeil
Dave Toms
Larry Larson

ABSENT
Beverley Clark
Aranzazu Lascurain
Brian Starkey

STAFF
Megan Anderson, Sustainability Manager
Cindy Holmes, Assistant Sustainability Manager

VISITORS
Joy Jones, Waste Management, Inc.
Susan Singer, Environmentalist/Bee Hive Supporter
Jay Feldman via video conference call,
Washington, DC, of Beyond Pesticides, a non-profit org.
Preston Peck

I. Call to Order

Ms. Anya Gordon called the meeting to order at 5pm.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as amended.

III. Public Comment

Susan Singer spoke of her support for bees, sustainability, and addressing land pollution. Joy Jones spoke about sustainability and recycling.

Jay Feldman Peck provided a PowerPoint presentation on the use of pesticides and chemicals on landscaping, the environmental impact, and the alternative products available. The board members had a discussion of about the city use of pesticides and encouraging alternative pest control. Megan stated that the COR is already moving in a sustainable direction working to model change, educate citizens, and providing consumer presentations.

IV. Staff Reports

a. Environmental Awards Celebration

Megan provided information on the upcoming awards celebration program. She advised the Board of the video presentation of past award winners produced by the Communications Division and discussion followed. She encouraged everyone to practice scripts for presentations and outlined how the stage will be set for presentations. She reminded everyone to be at Fletcher at 6:30 pm, sharp.

b. Program revisions and Urban Agricultural Day

Megan led a discussion on program categories and the effort to "reframe" them. Megan discussed efforts regarding media coverage for the event.

c. Idea Raleigh

Megan discussed the four themes for iDEA Raleigh and that it is focused on short term innovation, "Creating a Culture of Innovation". The competition has a $500 prize.

d. FY18 Work Plan

Anya discussed the FY18 work plan and the status of the current FY17 work plan. Topics included the number of presentations brought to the Board and the ability of the Board to meet work plan goals. The deadline for FY18 goals is the May meeting. The June meeting will focus on Agriculture and the possibility of Community Gardens. The May meeting includes the GI/LAD update. June will focus on Urban Culture and Community Gardens, and a Solid Waste Overview. Laurel also suggested an update on Solar and the permitting process for the July meeting.

VI. Other Business/Announcements - None

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanna L. Benoy