

**Environmental Commission Meeting**

**Thursday, May 24, 2007**

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Council Chambers – City Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
City of Ann Arbor, MI

**Agenda**

<b>Environmental Commissioners</b>		<b>Present</b>
<b>Steve Bean (Chair)</b>		J
<b>Rita Loch Caruso</b>		J
<b>Malama Chock</b>		
<b>Ron Emaus</b>	Planning Advisory Commission	J
<b>John German</b>		J
<b>Chris Graham (Vice-Chair)</b>		
<b>Gwen Nystuen</b>	Parks Advisory Commission	J
<b>David Stead</b>		J
<b>Margie Teall</b>	City Council	J
<b>Wendy Woods</b>	City Council	J
<b>David Wright</b>	Energy Commission	J
<b>Matthew Naud</b>	<b>Staff Environmental Coordinator</b>	

- A) Call to Order
- B) Roll Call of Members
- C) Amendments and Approval of the Agenda - approved
- D) Public Comment - none
- E) Special Presentations - none
- F) Reading and Approval of Minutes - none
- G) Unfinished Business as Listed on the Agenda
  - a) Resolution to adopt Guiding Principles and Environmental Action Plan Goals – Commissioner Stead moved the resolution as amended, Commissioner Emaus seconded. Commissioners discussed the first guiding principle regarding meeting existing needs and other language changes to the proposed guiding principles and goals. Approved unanimously as amended.
- H) Commission Proposed Business
  - a) Malletts Creek Resolution – postponed
  - b) HRIMP Appointment – Catherine Riseng – Moved by Commissioner Stead, seconded by Commissioner Caruso. Approved unanimously.
  - c) Environmental Commission membership – proposed change in code
- I) Staff Proposed Business
- J) Report of the Administrator and Council
- K) Items from the Environment Staff

- a) There was a CARD meeting and Commissioners commented that there should be better notice for these meetings. Many interested residents failed to receive notice.
- L) Items from the Park Advisory, Energy, and Planning Commission Representatives
  - a) Energy Commission – City Council will take action at their next meeting regarding the city participating in contesting the DTE renewable energy proposal at the Public Service Commission
  - b) Planning Commission – the Planning Commission approved a redevelopment at 212 Huron including geothermal heat pumps.
- M) Reports of the Chair and Committees
  - a) Huron River and Impoundment Plan
  - b) Natural Features
  - c) Solid Waste
  - d) State of the Environment
  - e) Transportation
  - f) Water
- N) Public Commentary - none
- O) Adjournment

#### 2007 Meeting Schedule

June 28

July 26

August 23

September 27

October 25

December 6

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CITY USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN  
PRINCIPLES AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN GOALS AND  
RECOMMENDING ADOPTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Whereas, the Environmental Commission is charged with making recommendations to City Council on environmental policies;

Whereas, the Environmental Commission has developed guiding principles and goals that capture the vision for a more sustainable Ann Arbor;

Whereas, the Environmental Commission held a work session with City staff on the Environmental Management Team to develop these goals;

Whereas these goals have been featured in the Ann Arbor News twice, been provided to local environmental organizations for review and circulation, and posted on the City website for public review and comment;

Whereas the Environmental Commission heard public comment on these goals at the December 7, 2006 Commission meeting;

Whereas, several residents and environmental organizations provided comments directly to commissioners or the Environmental Coordinator;

Whereas, a set of environmental goals is necessary to develop an environmental action plan for the City;

Resolved, the Environmental Commission supports City use of the following environmental action plan principles and environmental action plan goals;

Environmental Action Plan Principles

- Needs can be met while maintaining environmental quality, public health, and the availability of natural resources for future generations.
- Environmental quality, economic vitality, and social equity are interdependent.
- Conservation, protection, and restoration of the natural environment are highly valued and quantifiable.
- Our city is part of larger regional and global communities; our actions impact their environmental, economic, and social equity conditions; and we intend that those impacts be positive.
- Public awareness is vital to ensuring environmental quality.
- Policymakers need to be informed with the best available information.

- Precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause and effect relationships are not fully established scientifically.
- Meeting our environmental goals requires a combination of incremental and wholesale behavior changes and technology adoption.
- Collaboration is necessary in order to achieve our environmental goals.
- City government is an important partner with residents and businesses in our community with regard to our environmental goals
- The City of Ann Arbor strives to be at the forefront of sustainable living through its daily operations, capital improvements, and purchase of products.

#### Environmental Action Plan Goals

CLEAN AIR	<i>Eliminate air toxics, criteria pollutants, and persistent bioaccumulative toxins (PBT)</i>
CLEAN WATER	<i>Ensure safe water for drinking, recreation, other uses, and other species</i>
EFFICIENT MOBILITY	<i>Provide efficient transportation alternatives</i>
HEALTH PROMOTING URBAN ENVIRONMENT	<i>Ensure that the built environment promotes public health and improvements to the natural environment</i>
LOCAL FOOD SUFFICIENCY	<i>Conserve, protect, and restore local agriculture and aquaculture resources</i>
RESPONSIBLE RESOURCE USE	<i>Produce zero waste</i>
SAFE COMMUNITY	<i>Eliminate damage to public health and property from natural and other hazards</i>
STABLE CLIMATE	<i>Eliminate greenhouse gas emissions and other negative climate impacts</i>
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY	<i>Produce and Use 100% renewable energy</i>

VIABLE  
ECOSYSTEMS

*Conserve, protect, and restore aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems*

Resolved, that the Environmental Commission recommends that these goals be forwarded to City Council as adopted and that City Council adopts these goals;

Resolved, that the Environmental Commission recommends that the Environmental Coordinator develop an Environmental Action Plan based on these goals with measurable objectives, timelines, and indicators;

Resolved that the Environmental Commission recommends that this plan be provided to the Environmental Commission for Review by January 1, 2008.

Submitted by Commissioners Teall, Stead, and Bean – May 24, 2007  
Commissioner Stead moved the resolution. Commissioner Emaus seconded.  
Approved as amended unanimously (8-0)

Environmental Commissioners	Yes	No	Absent		Yes	No	Absent
Steve Bean (Chair)	J			TBD			
Rita Loch Caruso	J			David Stead	J		
Malama Chock			J	Margie Teall	J		
John German	J			Wendy Woods	J		
Chris Graham (Vice-Chair)			J	David Wright	J		
Ron Emaus	J						

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT CATHERINE RISENG TO THE HURON RIVER  
AND IMPOUNDMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

Whereas, the Environmental Commission created the Huron River and Impoundment Management Plan (HRIMP) Committee in March 2006,

Whereas, the membership of this committee includes three (3) Environmental Commissioners; a representative of the Huron River Watershed Council; a representative of the University of Michigan; a representative of Matthei Botanical Gardens/Nichols Arboretum; a representative of an environmental organization in Ann Arbor; a Rower; a Canoeist; an Angler; a representative of commercial property owners along the Huron River; a residential property owner along the Huron River; and five (5) citizen representatives from creeksheds in the City of Ann Arbor;

Whereas, the Environmental Commission appointed the following individuals to the Huron River and Impoundment Management Plan Committee for a time certain of 18 months;

Catherine Rising, Ann Arbor Environmental Commission  
David Stead, Ann Arbor Environmental Commission  
Wendy Woods, Ann Arbor Environmental Commission  
Chris Graham, Ann Arbor Environmental Commission  
Scott Dierks, Allens Creekshed  
Tom Edsall, Environmental advocacy organization  
Dirk Fischbach, Angler  
Paul M. Ganz, DTE  
Cathy Gendron, Barton Boat Club  
Sue Gott, University of Michigan  
Jeffrey Plakke, Nichols Arboretum  
Evan Pratt, Traver Creekshed  
Laura Rubin, Huron River Watershed Council  
David Szczygiel, Ann Arbor Public Schools  
Mike Taft, Rower  
Shirley White-Black, Residential property owner

Whereas, Catherine Riseng's appointment to the Parks Advisory Commission and Environmental Commission has ended;

Resolved, that the Environmental Commission amends the membership of the HRIMP to include six (6) citizen representatives and appoints Catherine Riseng to the Huron River and Impoundment Management Plan Committee as a citizen representative from a creekshed in the City of Ann Arbor.

Submitted by Commissioners Bean and Stead, May 24, 2007

Commissioner Stead moved the resolution. Commissioner Loch-Caruso seconded.

Approved as amended unanimously (8-0)

<b>Environmental Commissioners</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Steve Bean (Chair)</b>	J			<b>TBD</b>			
<b>Rita Loch Caruso</b>	J			<b>David Stead</b>	J		
<b>Malama Chock</b>			J	<b>Margie Teall</b>	J		
<b>John German</b>	J			<b>Wendy Woods</b>	J		
<b>Chris Graham (Vice-Chair)</b>			J	<b>David Wright</b>	J		
<b>Ron Emaus</b>	J						