

Environmental Advisory Board

Minutes of March 27, 2024

Members Present:

- **In person:** Dave Schmitt; Julie Shifman; Kylie Johnson; Susan Sprigg; Tanner Yess
- **Virtual:** Andrew Musgrave; Ashlee Dingler; Ashlee Young; Diana Hodge; Ericka Copeland; Rico Blackman

Members Absent: Nathan Alley; Savannah Sullivan; Chad Day

Staff Present: Oliver Kroner; Amanda Testerman; Kevin Frank

Meeting: A meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was held on March 27, 2024 at 3:00 PM at Centennial II HR Conference Room B, 805 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

II. Administrative Action*

- Approval of February 28, 2024 – Meeting minutes

III. Information/Updates

- I.** Connected Communities presentation scheduled for next meeting 4/24/24.

II. Open Discussion

Board members discussed the following items:

- Bylaws – Discussion of draft by-laws shared prior to the meeting. Draft reflects the items discussed in previous meeting, with a few items suggested by OES:
 - Chair as a voting member
 - Public Comment allowed at beginning of meeting; no prior written notice required; public comment only limited to items of interest to the board in general (not limited to just items on the agenda). Speaking time is limited to 2 minutes.
 - Committees specified within the Bylaws
- Committees – discussed organization of Committees to follow internal structural organization of the Office of Environment and Sustainability: two committees between which the 8 Focus Areas of the Green Cincinnati Plan will be divided.
 - Environment: Natural Environment; Resilience & Climate Adaptation; Zero Waste
 - Sustainability: Buildings & Energy, City Operations, Community Activation, Mobility, Food
- Motion to approve the bylaws as proposed: yes – 10 votes; no – 0 votes [PASSES]

IV. Action Items*

- Officer Nominations and Appointments
- Reviewed list of nominations submitted by email for Chair & Vice Chair.
 - Chair: Andrew Musgrave (declined); Savannah Sullivan, Ashlee Young (declined)
 - Vice Chair: Ashlee Dingler (declined); Kylie Johnson; Dave Schmitt
- Motion to elect Savannah Sullivan as Chair

- Yes – 10 votes; no – 0 votes [SAVANNAH SULLIVAN ELECTED AS CHAIR]
- Motion to elect a Vice Chair
 - Kylie Johnson – 8 votes; Dave Schmitt – 2 votes [KYLIE JOHNSON ELECTED AS VICE CHAIR]
- Motion to amend bylaws Article IV. D as follows: A quorum of the Board is ~~at least eight members~~ a majority of the active members of the Board. Any action of the Board requires an affirmative vote of at least a majority of the active members of the Board.
 - Yes – 10 votes; no – 0 votes. [PASSES]
- Board members expressed questions and concerns related to the number of votes required for electing officers as specified in the Bylaws.
 - Kevin Frank will draft options for language to amend bylaws to avoid this issue. This will be shared with Board members for review and will be on the April meeting agenda.

V. Office of Environment and Sustainability Comments

- Grant Updates
 - Bloomberg American Sustainable Cities grant awarded to City of Cincinnati
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grants
 - Cincinnati applying through OKI for the Cincinnati MSA. Grant focus is on reducing carbon emissions.
- Seeds of Change Grant Program
 - Applications open until 4/30/24.

VI. Next Meeting

- Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 3:00 PM
- Meeting will include presentation from CM Harris' Office on Connected Communities
- Meeting will be in-person and virtual – encourage everyone to attend in person if possible.

VII. Adjournment