

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Regular Meeting October 10, 2024

The Environmental Advisory Board held a meeting on this date at 4:00 p.m. at 405 6th Street, Room No. 404, Sioux City, Iowa in which the following items were discussed:

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>GUESTS/PUBLIC</u>
Alex Johnson	Ryan Rozeboom - excused	Estefani Valdez	
Grace Perrin		Arah Montagne	
Sarah Nelson		Wade Schuldt	
Corinne Erickson			
Sam Dailey			
Danna Sanchez			

CALL TO ORDER

The Environmental Advisory Board was called to order by Arah Montagne at 4:01 p.m. Meeting minutes from August 8, 2024, were approved with a motion by Grace Perrin and seconded by Sarah Nelson.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

1. Environmental Aspects for Parking Lots: Wade Schuldt, Planner, presented some information to the group about parking lot requirements. The current parking requirements were established in 1957. The idea is to potentially lessen the amount of parking space that lots require. A few examples of these parking lots are Fleet Farm, Hobby Lobby, Southern Hills Mall, and Lakeport Commons. Currently, the requirement is that for every 25 spaces, there should be a tree island. A few of the ideas the board shared is to plant native grasses versus only trees as well as implementing islands and swales. These changes cannot be implemented to current parking lots unless changes are made to the parking lot.

Many of the trees around parking lots are not maintained. The trees that need to be planted are noted on the blueprints, this falls on city staff to enforce this. The city will need to hold the engineering companies accountable. Failure to comply would result in fines starting at \$500. Planning and Zoning is looking for a recommendation from the EAB on what they would like to see implemented. The EAB will put something together and send these ideas to Wade. In the future, Wade can follow up on the progress of this.

2. Recap Fall Re-Event: Arah thanks everyone for attending and states the event went smoothly. We can use a few more volunteers next time. Someone is needed to help direct traffic and keep track of the number of cars coming in. Arah is working with Gill to figure out a way to keep the CCC traffic separate from those attending the Re-Event. Maybe opening the CCC at noon in the future so that only Re-Event traffic is coming through. The tally sheets were better this time although there were still some discrepancies in the numbers. Arah will share the official numbers once she has them. If you have any ideas for this event, please share them with Arah. We're always looking for ways to improve.

3. Tire Take Back Date: This event would be held at the CCC and would be free to the public. A trailer would be placed inside the gate, and this would be on a first come first serve basis. Citizens would unload the tires into the trailer and Gill staff will be onsite to ensure companies are not using this. The event will cost approximately \$3,500. The date of this event is on hold until a supervisor is hired at the CCC.
4. Styrofoam Free City Ordinance Discussion: Sarah will do a poll on this. The poll will mention that the EAB is trying to gain some insights on to-go packaging. It would be helpful if the group can find information on other cities that implement a Styrofoam free ordinance to include in the poll.
5. World Cleanup Day: World Cleanup Day will be on September 20, 2025. This event is on the May agenda to give us plenty of time to organize something by September. Sarah would like to do something for Earth Day and World Cleanup Day.
6. Reminder of 2024 Board Member Expirations: Estefani reviewed expirations with the group. Arah placed an ad on the Hy-Vee Hamilton grocery bags. The ad mentions the current board vacancies and has a QR code with information about the board and environmental events going on in the city.
7. Future Meeting Times – Frequency: The board is required to have a minimum of six meetings per year. Arah asks if the frequency of times the board meets should be changed. The board agrees that having a monthly meeting is necessary.

Comments from Staff & Board Members

The Sioux City Bird Friendly City designation will take place at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center on October 25th. The EAB will have a table set up and Grace and Arah will be in attendance.

Sam plans to have an educational event during the first weekend in April in honor of Earth Day. Sam has talked to members of the Sierra Club and the Wild Ones. The event can feature educational sessions as well as music and activities.

The city employee Wellness Fair will take place on October 17th. Arah and Estefani will have a table set up for the EAB during this event. The city will begin offering wellness points to employees that collect litter.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m. with a motion by Sarah Nelson seconded by Grace Perrin, all voting aye.

Recorded by Estefani Valdez