



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
City Hall - Council Chambers | 160 Sixth Avenue E. | Hendersonville, NC
28792

Thursday, November 21, 2024 – 3:30 PM



AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Approval of September 2024 meeting minutes
- 4. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Hendo Earth Fest update and decide on new co-chair - Frank Stewart, sub-committee chair
- 5. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Annual retreat - Caitlyn Gendusa, staff liaison
 - B. Farewell to Gina Baxter - Virginia Tegel, Chair
- 6. ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Hendersonville is committed to providing accessible facilities, programs and services for all people in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you need assistance or an accommodation for this meeting please contact the City Clerk no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting at 697-3005.



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
 City Operations Assembly Room | 305 Williams St. | Hendersonville, NC 28792
 Thursday, September 19, 2024 – 3:30 PM



Item A.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 3:33pm; Everyone present either in person or via Zoom

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Changes: City Council update moved to right after community garden update, Hendo Earth Fest update moved to end of Old Business; addition of waste reduction committee added

Gina motioned to approve first followed by Jill Carter

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jane Edgar motioned to approve followed by Jill Carter

NEW BUSINESS

- 4. Brooklyn Community Garden update: Jane Grossman - 10 minutes

Currently there are 35 people on a waitlist to join Bountiful Harvest Community Garden, making it clear that community gardens are in demand. Tae Brown also presented and shared goals of the garden: turn into non-profit, create a youth group, and have a grand opening spring 2025

OLD BUSINESS

- 5. Sustainability Demonstration Station update, Virginia Tegel, Chair - 5 minutes

Bike rack was recently installed; Caitlyn is buying permeable pavers; Omar Zafra is joining Jane Edgar to volunteer at the farmers market this weekend at the sustainability demonstration station; no update on water bottle filling station

- 6. Market & Cafe and Sustainability Demonstration Station: Virginia Tegel, Chair - 5 minutes

Caitlyn is waiting to hear back from Gracie Erwin on status of water bottle station at the S.D.S. The board will vote at the following meeting on a water bottle station at the Ecusta Market and Café. Concerns were raised of how the board could do this equitably and the board is going to table a decision on this topic to the following meeting

7. Hendo Earth Fest: Frank Stewart and June Shelp, Vice-Chair and Member - 10 minutes

Frank Stewart and June Shelp are working on application approvals and plan on having a late October kickoff

8. Symbolic Monarch Migration: Jill Carter, Member - 5 minutes

There has been great engagement at the farmers market days and the symbolic monarch migration activity was completed and Jill Carter is coordinating with Kim Bailey for sending the butterflies

9. Community Wildlife Habitat Certification: Jill Carter, Chair - 5 minutes

The board considered they could do education around the topic and have a longer term goal instead of going fully into the program; Caitlyn raised concern of there being too many certifications on similar topics since the City is already a Bee City, Tree City, and Caregivers of Mother Earth City

10. Green Business Partnership: Jane Edgar, Member - 15 minutes

Ideas for program: ask businesses for support; volunteer help; could have some sort of sustainability scorecard; next steps: Omar Zafra offered to help Jane Edgar explore further on the idea. Gina offered to make the connection with Kimberly Clark

11. Tree Board collaboration: Virginia Tegel, Chair - 5 minutes

Joint meeting will likely take place spring 2025

12. Native Plant Sale: Virginia Tegel, Chair - 5 minutes

This could be a smaller non-competitive plant sale; Jill Carter suggested bringing this to Henderson County

13. Vote on amending bylaws to include student board member: Virginia Tegel, Member (3 minutes)

Jill Carter motioned to approve followed by Tanya Guzman; All were in favor

14. Safe Routes to School program: June Shelp, Member (5 minutes)

June Shelp will reach out to Lyndsey Simpson to see if a presentation to City Council can be made

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER UPDATE

15. Caitlyn Gendusa: Staff liaison, 5 minutes

Members were in favor of having a retreat, potentially in November and tentatively agreed on November 21 from 3:30-5:30pm

16. Lyndsey Simpson, Mayor Pro Temp. - 5 minutes

Parks and Greenspace Master Plan approved in June; Work is still being done on the native plant policy; Lyndsey would like to see a focus more on invasive species removal; A joint Tree Board and E.S.B. meeting with tentatively be planned for spring 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Omar Zafra motioned to adjourn first followed by Tanya Guzman

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CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD ANNUAL RETREAT



Role of Environmental Sustainability Board

Policy Support

Advise, deliberate and make recommendations to the City Council to help facilitate the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan as it relates to environmental sustainability in the city;

Provide City Council with representative community participation in preparing and implementing plans and reports concerning environmental sustainability in the City of Hendersonville;

Advise Sustainability Manager on the City's Sustainability Strategic Plan progress and implementation; and

Recommend to City Council an overall policy for continued sustainability and assist with citizen-led efforts in furtherance thereof.

Outreach Support

Promote, facilitate, and act as liaison to educate citizens on environmental sustainability issues affecting the City of Hendersonville.

2024 Accomplishments and Focus Areas

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Sustainability Demonstration Station

LAND MANAGEMENT

- Mayor's Monarch Pledge & Bee City
- Tree Ordinance revision advisor
- Parks and Greenspace Master Plan Advisor

COMMUNITY

- Project sponsorships:
 - Brooklyn Creek Bird Sanctuary
 - Brooklyn Community Garden ADA path
 - Monarch Migration classrooms
 - Caregivers of Mother Earth Signs

ALL AREAS OF SUSTAINABILITY

- Hendo Earth Fest
- Sustainability Hero
- Award (area of waste management awarded)

Sustainability in other departments/boards/initiatives

- **Sustainability and Stormwater Divisions**
 - millions of dollars in grants for stream restoration
 - New rooftop solar on firestation
 - energy efficiency building systems and retrofits
 - waste reduction grant funds
- **Water & Sewer Dept.**
 - Water conservation rebate program
 - Mountains on Tap initiative
- **Parks & Greenspace Master Plan**
- **Walk Hendo Pedestrian Plan**
- **Bike Plan**
- **Tree Board**
 - Pollinator gardens
 - Invasive species removal
 - Educational events on trees
 - Neighborwoods tree donation program
- **Affordable Housing Committee and related strategic plan in the works**

How ESB's work fits into the overall City priorities surrounding sustainability

- **Gen H Comprehensive Plan Goals (pages 285-301)**

- Connect people to the outdoors
- protect & restore natural systems
- Affordable housing
- Improve bikeability & walkability
- Reduce invasive species & promote pollinator plants
- Maintain & expand tree canopy
- Explore options to help community pursue renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements
- Implement Sustainability Strategic Plan

- **Sustainability Strategic Plan**

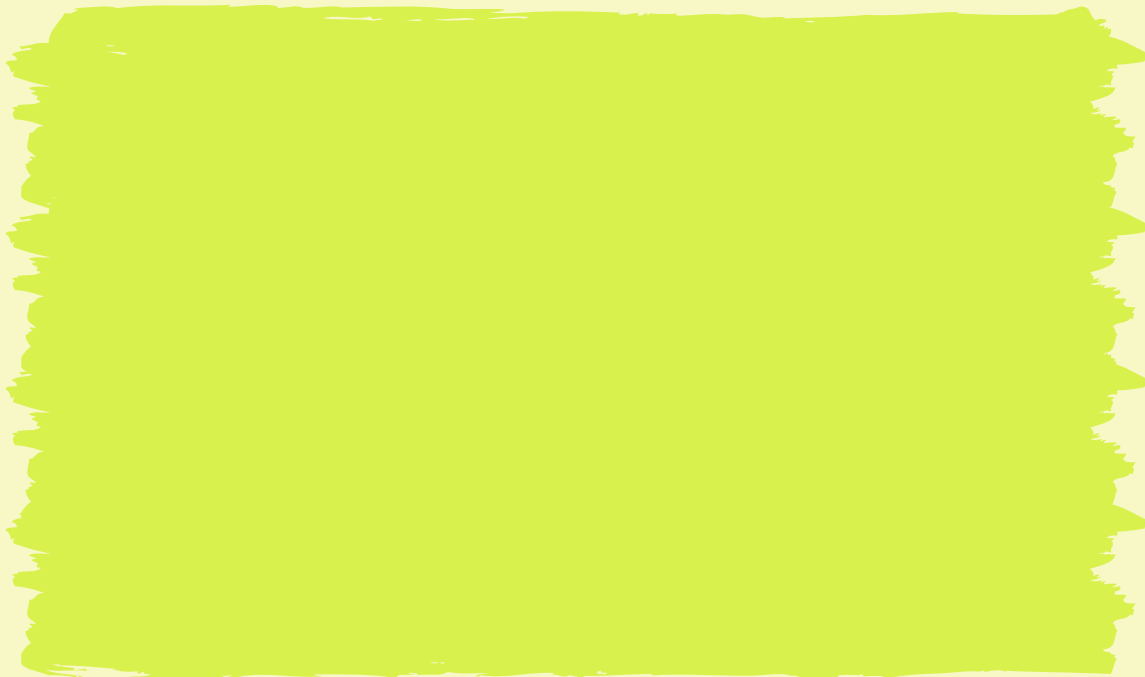
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- Maintain & expand tree canopy
- Explore options to help community pursue renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements
- Implement Sustainability Strategic Plan

As stated in Resolution R-21-53, the City Council recognizes the following core values and beliefs related to sustainability that should be upheld:

- The City will evaluate the environmental sustainability of all projects and programs while maintaining a solid relationship with residential and business development;
- The City believes that it is our responsibility to protect all our natural resources and the environment through the implementation of sustainable and responsible projects;
- The City must lead by example by evaluating all city operations to ensure they protect or repair the natural environment and are environmentally sustainable; and
- The City will prioritize the protection of existing tree canopy and the development of greenspaces and parks.

What is one thing you wish the board was doing or something the board is already doing that could be better?

2025 Goals



FY26 Proposed Budget

Project/Initiative:

Proposed funding allocated:
