

Environmental Protection Advisory Committee

September 3, 2024

6:00 pm

County Administration Building - County Manager's Training Room

12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

Pages

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Minutes** 1
4. **Administrative Updates**
 - Overview of attendance policy etc..
 - Election of EPAC Secretary
5. **Staff Presentation**
 - Andrew Coniglio, Forester with Alachua County Growth Management, will provide an overview of tree health and tree protection in Alachua County.
 - Alachua County Tree Code update discussion.
6. **Public Comment**
7. **Adjournment**



Aachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Committee

**Jay Rosenbek, Chair
Christopher Stoney, Vice-Chair
Summer Waters, Staff Liaison**

EPAC AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

Prepared by Krista Kilburg

August 13th, 2024 - 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Environmental Protection Department
Building
NE 1st Street, Gainesville, FL 32601
Conference Room A

1. Call to Order

Chris Stoney called to order at 6:04pm

Board members attending in person: George Papadi, Christopher Stoney, Bettina Moser, Blake Jacoby, Heshan Illangkoon, David Vaina, Krista Kilburg

Staff attending in person: Summer Waters

Guests attending in person: Kali Blount, Leslie Straub, Bill Frankenberger

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Heshan Illangkoon motioned for Krista Kilburg to serve as temporary Secretary. Blake seconded. The motion passed unanimously. There was a suggestion to move up Public Comment before New Business by Christopher Stoney.

3. Approval of Minutes

Christopher Stoney motioned to approve June and July minutes, Heshan Illangkoon seconded the motion.

4. Old Business

Introductions and homework discussions. EPAC members introduced themselves.

Community Conversations update and discussion:

- EPAC reviewed the survey form developed based on the feedback received in March and April; the committee concluded to include Demographics at the end and look into a formal Institutional Review Board (IRB) regulation check.
 - Further research needs to be done on whether or not the survey can be anonymously set up and to determine how we can dissuade people from filling it out multiple times.
 - The ongoing question of whether or not to combine “Water Quality/Resources” and “Springs Protection” was discussed.
 - There was agreement on the importance of emphasizing interconnectivity across all areas of interest, regardless of which topic takes the headline for the Conversation. Also, there was discussion on the possibility of eliminating the topics that received lower percentage of public interest in order to focus more specifically on the higher-ranking topics and creating an open-ended comment section.
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- There was a motion to move out air quality and climate change by Christopher Stoney, seconded by Blake Jacoby. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

Kali Blount

- Inquired about the inclusion of stormwater a flooding on the survey and brought up the potential of survey referrals to better examine demographic data.

Leslie Straub

- Supported the notion of including fewer topics with more specifics and suggested using zip code rather than region. Also proposed using generations to group participants rather than age.

6. New Business

- The idea of creating a subcommittee for Community Conversations was tabled. The subcommittee would help to pinpoint a specific purpose for the Conversation and best next steps. It would be held entirely on Zoom so no voting could occur and it would be advertised as a second EPAC meeting each month.
- Suggestions and discussion on new meeting locations for EPAC were discussed. The primary concerns for the current location include parking, safety, and room temperature.

7. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned by Christopher Stoney at 7:45pm.