

February 2017 Minutes

Matthews Environmental Advisory Committee

Attendees

Gordon Miller -	Chair
Scott Barnowski -	Vice Chair
David Ross -	Secretary
David Teixeira -	Member
Ollie Frazier -	Member
Andrew Steinecker -	Member
Ros Cumming -	Public Works Administrator
Jackie Killibrew -	Republic Services Group (“RSG”)

The February meeting of the Matthews Environmental Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:00 PM in the conference room of the Department of Public Works. The minutes for the January meeting was reviewed and approved as motioned by Mr. Frazier and seconded by Mr. Ross.

Mr. Killibrew reported that the new RSG garbage cans will be blue with black lids. Like the latest cans, the word “Garbage” will be embossed into the lid.

Mr. Killibrew informed the Committee that the RSG truck that Mr. Ross observed going to empty a dumpster at Elizabeth Lane Elementary School at 06:15 was a recycling truck from the Fort Mill yard. Mr. Killibrew stated that the Fort Mill yard supervisor appreciated the notification, and was going to follow-up with the driver regarding the Ordinance in Matthews. Mr. is going to follow-up.

Mr. Teixeira discussed looking at the complaint data relative to the contract.

Mrs. Cumming reported that the Town of Matthews still has no Communications Director.

Mr. Killibrew reported that the Town's recycling volume greatly increased the first collection week following Christmas, which means that the citizens of Matthews retained their recycling for a week rather than diverting it to the garbage.

Mr. Steinecker asked how the Town of Matthews does regarding recycling and waste diversion relative to the other municipal jurisdictions in our area. Mr. Ross explained diversion information regarding other jurisdictions in Mecklenburg County should be in the County's Solid Waste Management Plan. Associated with this, Mr. Ross asked Mr. Killibrew to see if RSG has any recycling champagnes in other areas that could be used in our area.

As a follow-up to last month's meeting, the Committee explained to Mr. Killibrew that businesses are included in the contract on a one can per business basis – one garbage and one recycling. We also discussed getting RSG to make a charitable donation of a dumpster to the Matthews Help Center, which currently has many garbage and recycling cans.

Storm Water

Mr. Ross informed the Committee that South Mecklenburg High School was going to install a rainwater collection system, and the water would be used in the greenhouse. Mr. Ross has been

recommending the Town install similar systems, along with solar panels, whenever the Committee heard that a Town building was undergoing some sort of renovation.

Air Quality

Mr. Ross reported that there had been no inspections in the Town during the last month; and, two gasoline stations, including the one Mr. Ross reported a having re-opened in May 2016, received new Air Quality Permits.

Mr. Miller reported that Mecklenburg County still is a maintenance area for ozone and carbon monoxide, and that the PM-2.5 levels recorded above the standard due to wildfires around Lake Lure have been flagged as unusual events so EPA would not use that data to classify the area as in violation for that pollutant.

Other Issues

Mr. Miller reported that he and Mr. Barnowski are attending a meeting with the Matthews Board of Commissioners, along with other Committee chairs and vice-chairs, to report on activities and the Board's desire for Committees and Agencies to interact. Mr. Miller stated that he, at that time, will question why our Committee has received no feedback from the Board or Planning Department as a result of the tri-fold Environmental Survey we created and submitted in October 2015.

The Environmental Survey, as explained to the newer members, was designed to make developers think about environmentally beneficial designs that can be included in their development. These are designs that are not required by codes or regulations, but things that will conserve water, conserve electricity, protect natural resources, and improve the quality of life for citizens in Matthews.

Next meeting 7 March 2017.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned around 8:17 PM as motioned by Mr. Fraizer and seconded by Mr. Ross.