CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Environmental Board

6:30 PM
September 14, 2022

MINUTES

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave. NW, Issaquah

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Board members:
Jamie Finch, Chair
Don McQuilliams, Vice Chair
Nancy Davidson
Rishi Hazra*
Cameron Fisher
Dan Hintz (Excused Absence)
Anne Newcomb
Lara Lebeiko (Excused Absence)
Ashwin Manoharan*

Mathangi Ramanathan, Alternate (Unexcused Absence)
Janet Wall, Alternate (Excused Absence)
Tom Anderson, Alternate

*Youth/young adult members.

Administration/Staff:
Stacy Vynne McKinstry, Sustainability Manager
Billy Almanza, Sustainability Intern

CALL TO ORDER

Jamie Finch called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chair introduced the minutes, which were included in the agenda materials. The minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consent.

a) Minutes of August 10, 2022

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONNIE MARSH, Resident. There is a need to address lifestyle changes. The suggested messages were those regarding a reduction in purchases of new over used products. Other cities hold swap meets in public parks to facilitate this. She also felt that the environmental checklist did not adequately meet the cities environmental goals and wanted the Board to be aware of PPC wanting the SEPA limit lowered.

AGENDA ITEMS

a) **King County Re+ Program (I)**
Presented by:
Amy Ockerlander, John Walsh and Brian Halverson, King County Solid Waste

JOHN WALSH presented the King County Re+ Program on behalf of the King County Solid Waste Division. Before the presentation, the Board asked about what groups were talked to in developing this plan and if it considered demographic differences. During the presentation, the data point of 46% of waste not being captured was mentioned and the Board inquired as to what waste materials were included in that percentage. The Board brought up the fact that many new products are constantly put out there and asked if Re+ was creating educational material on how to handle and recycle these new materials. Recognizing the complexity of adopting new programs across jurisdictions the Board asked what measures would be needed for unincorporated areas. The Board brought up the abundance of waste creation at schools and inquired if the program was being extended to local schools. As there is no unified strategy for handling plastic, the Board asked how Re+ was tackling items such as plastic bags. The Board wanted to know if the Solid Waste Division was aware of areas that the City was not performing well in and if there were any recommendations in improving those areas. The Board also showed concern in how commercial businesses handle waste and how that impacts natural systems and wildlife interactions. The Board appeared very interested in the program and unanimously agreed to having the pledge come up at a future meeting.

b) **Natural Environment Checklist (D)**
Presented by:
Christian Geitz, Planning Manager
Doug Yormick, Assistant Planner

CHRISTIAN GEITZ presented on the natural environment checklist. The Board wanted clarification on how rule changes would affect people that are under the old code vs the new code. The Board also wanted clarification on how staff will use the checklist and whether it would be a static checklist or an evolving checklist. The Board appeared receptive to buildings moving towards taller as opposed to wider. They wanted to emphasize the need to still account for climate change in developments near wetlands due to the potential for increased flooding in the future. Returning to the topic of how the checklist evolves over time, the Board felt that the checklist needed to be flexible over time as there are many variances to the environment that occur during development. In essence, the Board felt that the checklist could be a powerful tool that acts as a report card for how the city is doing and be seen by residents to assess the actions being taken. The Board would like to see revisions captured in the next version.

REPORTS

a) Title 18 Check-In
Presented by:
Stephen Padua, Stacy Vynne McKinstry
STEPHEN PADUA provided a brief update on the progress of Title 18. The Board was provided the crosswalk between Title 18 updates and the climate action plan. The Board asked for clarification on what the PPC was doing with a numeric scoring for ecological impacts for buildings but was informed that PPC was instead having a broader discussion with the city on how it was tackling sustainability in buildings. The Board seemed interested in this new information being brought to them once possible so that they may better serve their role.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Environmental Board Schedule
STACY VYNNE MCKINSTRY provided updates to the board schedule. Adjustments were made to accommodate the addition of a meeting with Parks in December. The next meeting will look at the final draft of the ICAP dashboard for input and there will be a discussion on the CIP overview and environmental scoring. The Board was also informed on the new ways of getting

the community involved including workshops, mapping tools, the virtual open house, and the city working with Gibson Ek students.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.