

# **Environmental Advisory Board**

# **Agenda**

Thursday, June 1, 2023, 2:00 PM

Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2ndt Floor

One or more members of City Council may be in attendance. The meeting can be watched via live stream at cityofpensacola.com/video.

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**

#### **ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. 23-00039 APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2023

Recommendation: That the Environmental Advisory Board approve the meeting minutes

from the May 4, 2023, Board meeting.

Sponsors: Kristin Bennett

Attachments: EAB Minutes 05.04.2023

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

2. <u>23-00437</u> PRESENTATION FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST WITH THE

PENSACOLA PERDIDO BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM (PPBEP) ON THE

STATE OF THE BAYS REPORT FOR 2023.

Recommendation: That the EAB receive a presentation on the State of the Bays from the

PPBEP.

Sponsors: Kristin Bennett

#### STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

3. <u>23-00446</u> STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

4. 23-00110 DISCUSSION: 2023 GOALS, 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SPECIFIC

PRESENTATIONS DESIRED FOR THE COMING YEAR

**Sponsors:** Kristin Bennett

Attachments: EAB GOALS DISCUSSION 04.06.2023

EAB Goals. Chair Bennett

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purpose he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

The City of Pensacola adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act and will make reasonable accommodations for access to City services, programs and activities. Please call 435-1606 (or TDD 435-1666) for further information. Request must be made at least 48 hours in advance of the event in order to allow the City time to provide the requested services.



#### Memorandum

File #: 23-00039 Environmental Advisory Board 6/1/2023

**ACTION ITEM** 

**SPONSOR:** Kristin Bennett, Chairperson

SUBJECT:

APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF May 4, 2023

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Environmental Advisory Board approve the meeting minutes from the May 4, 2023, Board meeting.

#### SUMMARY:

On May 4, 2023. The EAB held a meeting, this item seeks approval of the minutes from that meeting.

#### **STAFF CONTACT:**

Don Kraher, Council Executive

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1) EAB Minutes 05.04.2023



# **Environmental Advisory Board**

## **Minutes**

Thursday, May 4, 2023, 2:00 PM

Hagler/Mason Conference Room, 2nd Floor

**Members Present:** 

Kristin Bennett, Chair, Kelly Hagen, Vice Chair, Neil Richards, Kyle

Kopytchak, Blase Butts, Katie Dineen, Jay Massey

**Members Absent:** 

Katie Fox and one position vacant.

**Others Present:** 

Don Kraher, Council Executive, David Forte, Deputy City Administrator, Mark Jackson, Sustainability Coordinator, Kris Stultz, Arborist, Caitlin Cerame, Transportation Planner, Greg Harding, Assistant Planning and Zoning Division Manager, Adam Cayton, Betty Wilson, Christian Wagley

#### CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bennett.

#### ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

A quorum was established.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**1.** 23-00039

APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2023

Recommendation:

That the Environmental Advisory Board approve the meeting minutes

from the April 6, 2023, Board meeting.

Sponsors:

Kristin Bennett

Attachments:

EAB Minutes 04.06.2023

Member Hagen moved for approval of the April 6, 2023 minutes, seconded by Member Kopytchak. The motion carried 7-0 with one member absent.

#### PRESENTATIONS.

2. 23-00369 PRESENTATION FROM CHELSEA MAHAN, PROVIDING AN UPDATE

ON THE EAST PENSACOLA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD

ASSOCIATION TREE PLANTING

Recommendation: That the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) receive a presentation from

Chelsea Mahan, providing an update on the East Pensacola Heights (EPH)

Neighborhood Association Tree Planting

Sponsors: Kristin Bennett

Adam Cayton provided an update to the Board on the East Pensacola Heights Neighborhood Association Tree Planting. With the City funds, 25 trees were purchased and came in a little under budget. The Santa Rosa UF/IAFS Extension had some representatives at the meeting when the presentation was made and they donated an additional 36 trees to the neighborhood association. They found property owners to take all of the trees and signed their commitment to care for the tree. Of the 25 trees purchased by the City, 24 survived and 30 of the 36 donated trees survived. Door to door solicitation worked better than social media. Most of the tree loss was caused by improper mowing, so some sort of protection needs to be provided at the base of the tree to prevent damage. Education of tree shock and tree type would also be useful. He compared the success rate of the trees planted on private property vs trees planted at Lions Park, where children play. They would be willing to assist any other neighborhood association interested in planting trees. They did consult with several local tree experts regarding what types of trees species were available and wise to plant.

Sustainability Coordinator indicated that the remainder of the grant funds were the in-kind contributions made by the neighborhood association in planting the trees. They also had a group of students from Booker T. Washington High School show up to help with the planting.

Further discussion occurred on the grant process and if changes should be made in the ordinance to make the process easier. Should consideration be given to the timeline for optimum tree planting? Would the approved funding carry over to the right time to plant trees? The grant process could be timed in such a way to open for applications to be submitted and approved through the process in time for the optimum planting to occur.

3. 23-00371 PRESENTATION FROM CHRISTIAN WAGLEY REGARDING BIKE PENSACOLA AND THE GONZALEZ STREET SHAREWAY

Recommendation: That the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) receive a presentation from

Christian Wagley regarding Bike Pensacola and the Gonzalez Street

Shareway

Sponsors: Kristin Bennett

Christian Wagley provided an update on the Gonzalez Street Shareway. Gonzalez Street was chosen because it was an east/west street that ran from Bayview Park, all the way over to Brownsville Community Center, with very little vehicular traffic on it except at major intersecting streets, many parks, churches, and businesses. They envisioned making it a focused corridor, adding street trees, traffic calming measures that favor bikes and pedestrians over vehicular traffic. Traffic calming measures are frequently requested by neighborhoods and need to be done first, in order to eliminate some of the stop signs along the shareway from the north/south drivers. They encouraged citizen participation along the shareway to set up yard sales and other activities to move people outside.

Ultimately, he would like to see the city make the shareway part of the overall transportation plan to be more bike and pedestrian friendly.

Caitlin Cerame, Transportation Planner indicated they were in the final stages of putting together the draft of the Active Transportation Plan, that will be how to improve walking, biking and other self-propelled modes of transportation, taking into consideration people with disabilities and in wheelchairs and trying to address people of all abilities from a complete streets perspective. The draft plan does include the Gonzalez Street Shareway. They are going to refer to them as neighborhood greenways. They are going to have a workshop sometime in June to receive public comment and then present to the City Council sometime in August.

## SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR COMMUNICATIONS:

The solar panels have been turned on, so they are feeding power to the building. He also mentioned that the tree canopy and tree inventory are now available on the city's website. If the Board would like to have a demonstration, he'd be glad to do so at the appropriate time. Also, internally, they are working on extra metrics that will help develop a specific planting plan.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

4. 23-00368 SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE 2023-2024 TERM.

Recommendation: That the Environmental Advisory Board select a Chair and Vice Chair, from among its members, for the coming year's term.

Sponsors: Kristin Bennett

Member Hagen nominated Kristin Bennett for chair, seconded by Member Massey. No other nominations were made. By acclamation, Chair Bennett remains Chair.

Member Hagen volunteered to step aside as Vice Chair, if someone was interested in being Vice Chair. Member Richards nominated Member Butts. Member Butts declined nomination.

Member Hagen nominated Member Katie Dineen as Vice Chair, seconded by Member Richards. No other nominations were made. By acclamation, Member Dineen is Vice Chair.

5. <u>23-00298</u> REFERRAL FROM CITY COUNCIL REGARDING PROPOSED

AMENDMENTS TO CITY CODE SECTION 12-6-10(C) - TREE

PLANTING TRUST FUND

Recommendation: That the EAB review and offer recommendations of proposed amendments to Section

12-6-10(c) of the City Code - Tree Planting Trust Fund.

Sponsors: Kristin Bennett

Attachments: Proposed Amendment to Section 12-6-10(c) City Code - Tree Plantin

Chair Bennett opened discussion on the referral from City Council, indicating the proposed changes are included in the agenda packet. She didn't know if city staff had any involvement in writing these changes.

Sustainability Coordinator indicated that city staff was not involved in writing these changes. However, city staff does have some proposed amendments that they are preparing to the overall ordinance. They will bring the proposed changes to the Board and then, because it is in the Land Development Code, will go to the Planning Board and then to the City Council. Since there was no definite time line given on the referral, the Board may want to consider waiting until the staff brings forward their proposed changes to the overall ordinance.

Discussion occurred on the process and taking specific action on this particular referral from City Council. Consensus of the Board was to go ahead and take action on this particular referral now.

Chair Bennett suggested that the board members review the tree ordinance and note any section that they think may need to change and be prepared to discuss at a future meeting.

With regard to the actual referral, Member Butts questioned the underlined language in section (c) Tree planting trust fund, with regard to being reviewed by the city arborist, the environmental advisory board, and the City Council and who would have the ultimate decision.

Sustainability Coordinator indicated that that language is a little unclear and they would have to work with legal to capture the essence, talk with the referring member of City Council, find out what they were intending and provide the most clarity.

Greg Harding, Assistant Planning and Zoning Division Manager indicated they use a similar process with other sections of the land development code where they talk about sub division

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Board May 4, 2023 Page 5

plats. The city surveyor, city planner and city engineer have to weigh in and if one of the three does not agree on the project, then it doesn't move forward. He would assume that this would work in much the same way, since all three reviewing, the city arborist, the environmental advisory board and the City Council are linked by and instead of or.

Member Kopytchak reviewed the details of the discussion at the city council meetings where this language was proposed. They wanted to use the tree planting trust funds once and then the door was opened with exigent circumstances. This proposed language opens the door for the use for the removal of trees. They need to leave the door shut, use the funds one time and make plans to fund the removal of trees elsewhere and never come back to the tree trust fund. On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the EAB wrote a letter to the City Council stating that they didn't agree with using the tree trust funds. Any support of this change counteracts the action of the Board. The language needs to be taken out.

He also wanted to remove the language...in cases where necessary, other vegetation for public purposes within the city. The tree planting trust fund needs to be used for the planting of trees. He also disagreed with the change to section (2) a on the grant to increase, since the EAB has had only one request and the requesting associations need to have participation, pledge their support and be involved.

Member Richards would prefer to have pruning and removal of trees removed from the language and that no tree planting trust fund money be used for any removal of trees. He also suggested the expenditure in excess of \$25,000 be reduced to \$10,000.

Members Hagen, Butts and Massey also were not in support of the proposed changes and agreed with comments made by Member Kopytchak.

Chair Bennett summarized that the EAB has considered the referral and the EAB does not support the revisions, as proposed in section (c) Tree planting trust fund (1). The EAB does not support the use of the tree planting trust funds for tree removal. The EAB recommendation is that a budget plan be put together with another source of funding to remove trees. The EAB recommends removal of using the tree planting trust fund for other vegetation, the tree planting trust fund should be for only trees.

The suggestion by Member Richards to lower any expenditure in excess of \$25,000 be reduced to \$10,000 was not part of the underlined changes in the referral from City Council, so that particular change will not be included in the recommendation, but can be considered in the overall review of the tree ordinance.

Also, discussion occurred on the referral language dealing with the restoration of the tree canopy in the area of the city where the trees generating the funds were removed. Should the expenditure be in the "district" instead of "in the area of the city"?

Sustainability Coordinator stated looking at this as an environmental issue, the environment as a whole, there are no boundaries, no borders, there are no lines drawn. Planting a tree and insuring that tree disbursement across the city as a whole is even and going in the areas of highest need, based off of sound evidence would be the higher priority. When the tree planting

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Board May 4, 2023 Page 6

plan is brought forward, the Board will see the justifications, the data layers and other things of why they put trees where they have chosen, and from an environmental science standpoint will understand the methodologies behind that.

Chair Bennett suggested that the Board look at this language again when there is additional language proposed. The Board had no problem with the proposed change to increase the grant percentage and amount.

Chair Bennett moved the recommendation from the EAB to the City Council on this matter, is the EAB does not support the proposed revisions, the EAB does not support the use of tree planting trust fund monies for tree removal, the EAB would like to see the other vegetation removed from this part of the ordinance, and the EAB recommends another area of funding is used for removal of trees. The motion was seconded by Member Kopytchak and carried 6-0, with two members absent and one position vacant.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

6. 23-00110 DISCUSSION: 2023 GOALS, 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SPECIFIC PRESENTATION DESIRED FOR THE COMING YEAR

Sponsors:

Kristin Bennett

The discussion item on the Board's goals will be moved to the next meeting.

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Vice Chair Dineen announced a climate change rally on Saturday from 4 – 6 p.m. at Plaza DeLuna.

Chair Bennett commented on the tree cutting on Scenic Highway and Montaigne Drive and the shearing on one side of the tree.

City Arborist indicated that is allowed by FPL and does not pre-expose the tree to failure, it's just looks very ugly.

Chair Bennett expressed her appreciation for supporting her as Chair for another year and thanked the Board for their participation.

Sustainability Coordinator mentioned in moving forward, he would like to move away from printing agenda packets, since they are sent electronically and suggested that Board members bring their laptop, tablet or other electronic device. If there is someone who cannot, there will be limited printed copies available. Also, if there are no presentation items, no action items, then in consultation with the Board Chairman, there may be no reason to meet. Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Board May 4, 2023

Next month, may be a good time to have a presentation from the Pensacola and Perdido Bay Estuary Program. If a board member has something they wish to share, please send to him. He will still be working with Don and he will be available as backup.

Member Kopytchak mentioned the link to the presentation by the students from Creative Learning Center on the sustainable Mardi Gras beads.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Christian Wagley mentioned upcoming events taking place—Communicating the Dr. King Way at the downtown library on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Mountain Film on Tour at the Pensacola Little Theatre. On Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, the first kids slow ride from Malaga Square.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m.



## Memorandum

File #: 23-00437 Environmental Advisory Board 6/1/2023

## PRESENTATION ITEM

**FROM:** Kristin Bennett, Chair

#### SUBJECT:

PRESENTATION FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST WITH THE PENSACOLA PERDIDO BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM (PPBEP) ON THE STATE OF THE BAYS REPORT FOR 2023.

#### **REQUEST:**

That the EAB receive a presentation on the State of the Bays from the PPBEP.

#### SUMMARY:

Recently the City Council approved a First Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement with the Pensacola Perdido Bay Estuary Program wherein the PPEB will be transitioning into a not-for-profit corporation as an "instrumentality of government.

In 2018, the City entered into an Interlocal Agreement, under Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, with Escambia County, FL; Santa Rosa County, Florida; Okaloosa County, Florida; the City of Gulf Breeze, Florida; the City of Milton, Florida; the Town of Century, Florida; Baldwin County, Alabama; and the City of Orange Beach, Alabama. The purpose of the Agreement was to establish the management structure for the Estuary Program, which replaced the former Bay Area Resource Council (BARC) partnership established in 1987. The Estuary Program established in 2018 is governed by a Policy Board made up of representatives from each of the participating local government entities.

Through the Estuary Program, the participating local governments have been able to work together cooperatively for the protection and management of their shared estuaries to an extent that the entities could not achieve if acting alone. The Program has successfully functioned to implement a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) to restore and protect the Pensacola Bay and Perdido Bay systems and is prepared to continue this mission going forward.

The Estuary Program is currently hosted by Escambia County, with the County providing accounting and administrative services. The Estuary Program Policy Board has determined that it would be advantageous to establish a separate, independent legal entity to carry out the purpose of the Program. Thus, at its meeting on April 5, 2023, the Policy Board approved the First Amended and Restated Pensacola and Perdido Bay Estuary Program Interlocal Agreement to provide for the creation of a Florida not-for-profit corporation to administer and carry out the purpose of the Estuary Program. The Board also authorized the transmittal of the Amended Interlocal Agreement to all the

**Environmental Advisory Board** 

6/1/2023

File #: 23-00437

local government participants, along with a proposed resolution for adoption and appointment of a representative to the new corporation's board. Following the adoption of the First Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement, the Estuary Program organizational structure will transition into a not-for-profit corporation as an "instrumentality of government."

This presentation from PPBEP Environment Scientist, Haley Gancel, will provide an update for the EAB as to the current state of the Bays.

## **PRIOR ACTION:**

None

#### STAFF CONTACT:

Mark Jackson, Sustainability Coordinator Don Kraher, Council Executive

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1) None

PRESENTATION: Yes

# H SE TORION

# City of Pensacola

## Memorandum

File #: 23-00446 Environmental Advisory Board 6/1/2023

#### SUBJECT:

#### STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

# • Staff Updates to the EAB

## • Urban Forest Restoration Project

The City of Pensacola has worked hard to collect and analyze tree and canopy data for the City. These efforts have helped City staff understand the current canopy health of our City and the current health of City-owned trees. Furthermore, the City has developed a GIS model using the current best available data to prioritize tree planting locations on City property.

# • Renewable Energy Goal

The City of Pensacola is happy to announce that effective today, all Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles will be running off of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG). Pensacola Energy has interned into an agreement with BP to convert 100% of our CNG to RNG for the City Fleet. This action alone will provide an estimated 15% of Renewable Energy (RE) to the City in 2024 and get the City to an estimated 21% RE. This is over two-thirds of the way to our 30% by 2030 goal.

#### Carbon Offset Natural Gas

The City of Pensacola has been receiving Carbon Offset Natural Gas (CONG) since August 2021 for our CNG vehicles. This has helped us reduce our emissions by XX%. This information is being incorporated into our GHG tracking system and will be included in the next GHG Inventory.

#### • Grants

The City is applying for two grants of note this month. First is the USDA Forest Service Urban & Community Forestry Grant. This grant is a 5-year grant that the City will use to fund Urban Forestry programs, tree giveaways, educational programs, and urban forest management. The grant deadline is today, and it has already been submitted.

The second is the USDOT Community Fueling Infrastructure Grant. The City is applying to receive funds to create EV charging locations in designated areas within disadvantaged communities and, where feasible, provide solar power to supply the charging locations and associated facilities.



## Memorandum

File #: 23-00110 Environmental Advisory Board 6/1/2023

**DISCUSSION ITEM** 

**SPONSOR:** Kristin Bennett, Chair

SUBJECT:

DISCUSSION: 2023 GOALS, 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SPECIFIC PRESENTATIONS DESIRED

FOR THE COMING YEAR

#### **SUMMARY:**

This discussion item allows the EAB to discuss and present their 2023 Goals, their 2022 Accomplishments and Specific Presentations the Board would like to have in the coming year. Attached are EAB Goals submitted by Kristin Bennett, Chair.

#### PRIOR ACTION:

April 6, 2023, the Environmental Advisory Board discussed their 2023 Goals

#### STAFF CONTACT:

Don Kraher, Council Executive

#### ATTACHMENTS:

1) EAB Goals Discussion.04.06.2023

2) EAB Goals - Chair Bennett

PRESENTATION: No

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Board April 6, 2023 Page 4

4. <u>23-00110</u> DISCUSSION: 2023 GOALS, 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SPECIFIC PRESENTATION DESIRED FOR THE COMING YEAR

Sponsors:

Kristin Bennett

Chair Bennett opened the discussion, noting the accomplishments of eliminating the use of Styrofoam containers in city buildings and supporting the no smoking ban in city parks.

Member Butts stated that he really didn't care about the prior accomplishments, he would rather focus the discussion on establishing the goals and then at the end of the year, assess what was achieved.

Member Hagen indicated her goal would be to redefine what the EAB is doing and what direction it is going. She is a proponent of education and community outreach.

Member Richards suggested considering the city budget cycle. Ask that they increase the stormwater management fee and that increase be put in the tree planting trust fund to increase the tree canopy. He also wanted to include recycling.

Member Butts suggested wording to support activities that would increase the tree canopy instead. We are looking for broad goals. Activities under that goal could include the tree planting trust fund, planting trees, changes to ordinance for increases, how departments regulate parking lots. These topics would fall under increasing the tree canopy.

Member Fox suggested finding alternative funding mechanisms for the tree trust fund. With regard to recycling, is the intent to see a program expanded, to understand how the City handles recycling.

Further discussion occurred, with regard to recycling the right way, having a presentation from the new recycling coordinator at ECUA, and increase education about recycling, which would fall under public outreach.

Member Dineen would like to have more community involvement at the Board meetings and to have presentations from community organizations that are doing things. She would like the EAB to support the development of the Gonzalez Street Shareway as part of the overall city bike plan to make Pensacola more pedestrian and bike friendly. She would also like to see native gardens in public parks or property which could be areas of beautification and education and to have a place for wildlife, insects, butterflies to share the earth. It would be good to have a presentation about native plants and gardens.

Member Hagen stated that could be a good pilot project, to have a neighborhood to select the park, seek funding to plant and then take care of it and provide a benefit.

Sustainability Coordinator provided clarification that per state regulations, the stormwater fee could not be used for increasing the tree canopy.

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Board April 6, 2023 Page 5

Member Fox's priorities include implementation of and accountability for the city's integrated pest management plan for both indoor and outdoor use. Supporting the city's sustainability, resiliency, and adaptation efforts. Support relevant environmental components in the city's strategic plan development. Provide technical insight and support on various environmental topics and concerns. For the EAB to be seen as a resource rather than a roadblock. Her topics of interest are water quality, stormwater, environmental stewardship, sustainability and adaptation, livability, and a balanced coastal development.

Member Massey also supports the Gonzalez Street Shareway and would like the EAB to be a strong advocate for that and it would help reduce pollution. As a Board, could become a proponent of bike incentive programs. He also mentioned his interest in providing some sort of habitat, possibly in park, for chimney swifts. The birds eat mosquitos and that could help reduce the need for mosquito spraying.

Chair Bennett suggested a broader goal such as encourage the City of Pensacola to be a more bike and pedestrian friendly and suggested having a presentation during Bike Month on the Gonzalez Street project. With regard to the chimney swifts, a broader topic could be an alternative to mosquito control. Alternative transportation could be used to include any bike/pedestrian programs to include micro mobility.

Member Butts suggested an even broader goal of improving livability, which would encompass the bike and pedestrian friendly component. He would like to see the Board be relevant. He would also like to add improve the quality of the water in the bay. That would include stormwater management, encouraging ECUA to apply for all the grants that come out of EPA to replace septic tank systems. There are approximately 1200 septic tank systems that are close to Carpenters Creek. The EPA programs only do the street, they don't do from the street to the house. Incentives could be offered to encourage hooking up to the sewer system.

Chair Bennett would like to see the Board be more relevant, how to be an asset and help. She would like to finalize the work and recommendations on the tree/landscape ordinance, taking a broader outlook on it. Clarify and make the process easier for groups and organizations to utilize the tree planting trust fund.

Further discussion occurred on the process, how it would be funded, public awareness. The existing grant process is very bulky and hard to get through. It has to come to the EAB and then go to the City Council. Sustainability Coordinator suggested looking at other cities and what their processes are and give better direction on the utilization of the funds. While the Board is considering the enabling ordinance, look at possibly changing the ordinance that allows for the grant program to be more effective.

Member Dineen suggested inviting the East Pensacola Heights Neighborhood Association to come to the June meeting to provide an update on the progress of the trees and any suggestions they may have on the process, since it was a pilot project.

From: Bennett, Kristin < Kristin.Bennett@tetratech.com >

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 11:08 AM

To: Mark Jackson < MaJackson@cityofpensacola.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] EAB goals Kristin

#### THIS EMAIL IS FROM AN EXTERNAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

EAB Goals and Objectives 2023

- 1. Clarify the intent of the tree **planting** trust fund. Clarify how the funds in the trust fund are to be used. Clarify who can request use of the funds. Clarify when requests should come to the EAB for consideration. Develop a more robust grant process. Develop a plan to identify where and when trees should be planted (strengthen current language fund to be used to replace trees in area where tree has been removed). Clarify process for requests for use of the tree fund (requests to go to EAB prior to going to City Council for consideration)
- 2. Have prepared by the July 2023 EAB meeting recommendations on provisions of the tree ordinance that should be addressed by the appropriate City staff.
  - a. Recommendations will be "big picture" issues, not a line by line re-write.
- 3. Resume educational/information presentations
  - a. East Pensacola Heights neighborhood association update on grant award.
  - b. Gulf Power
  - c. PPBEP
  - d. Bream fisherman (water quality testing)
  - e. City projects affecting water quality and storm water management

Kristin Bennett Contracts Manager

Kristin.Bennett@tetratech.com | www.tetratech.com

Tetra Tech, EC Inc.

Pensacola, FL (NOTE: Central Time Zone)

