



Meeting on February 8, 2024, 7:00 pm

Board Members	Town Council Members	Staff	Guests
Nick Stover	Randee Haven-O’Donnell	Laura Janway	Alesia Bregu
Greg Randolph	Eliazar Posada		
Tilly Pick			
Jane Danielewicz			
Lauren Nyland			
Meg Molloy			
Rob Pinder			

Note: Absent/Excused: None

Call to Order, Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by Chair Pick.

Approve 1/18/24 Meeting Minutes

Nyland requested two changes: 1) Adding the Green Neighborhoods Grant Program timeline to the minutes and 2) The CAT’s recommendations to the Town Council on the landscaping equipment also include their discussion about the importance of the time of day. Stover motioned to approve the 1/18/24 meeting minutes, seconded by Molloy. All voted in favor. **AYES: (7) Stover, Randolph, Pick, Danielewicz, Nyland, Molloy, Pinder; NAYES: (0).**

Discussion Items

Motion by Danielewicz, seconded by Stover to adjust the agenda timeline to have the discussion items close at 8:00 pm. All voted in favor. **AYES: (7) Stover, Randolph, Pick, Danielewicz, Nyland, Molloy, Pinder; NAYES: (0).**

Spring/Summer 2024 Outreach Discussion

- Dietary Emissions
- Green Neighborhoods Grant Program
- Great Backyard Bird Count
- Invasive Species Awareness Week
- Creek Week
- Open Streets
- Carrboro Day
- Earth Day
- Pollinator Week

Staff member Janway introduced the items. Stover mentioned he was working with some graduate students on campus to start at UNC Chapter for the Sustainable Ocean Alliance. And we were looking for a potential public programming opportunities and I brought up about Creek Week. Members discussed how to sign up for volunteering at events and Danielewicz asked about using their existing calendar. Members then discussed creating an interactive calendar. Town Council Haven-O’Donnell discussed outreach and the modules project. Staff member Janway stated that the Town’s new Environmental Planner was helping to finish up several modules which will soon be made available on the Town website. Pick asked about the possibility of sharing the modules with the CAT while they are in-progress for feedback. Molloy suggested that CAT members could help create a simple on-ramp handout that could get people interested in the modules and go check them out online. Guest Bregu stated that she

agrees with Tilly and likes the sound of this project in terms of how she can share with other high school students. Pick asked about the potential for outdoor medial billboard spaces. Members discussed a potential date and ideas for an Earth Day event. Danielewicz brought up tree planting in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan. Town Council Member Haven-O'Donnell mentioned the possibility of discussing natural succession at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park by labeling trees in the wetland area. Members discussing combining with Open Streets or the Bazaar. Molloy mentioned having materials to teach people about how to create a monarch sanctuary and using mosquito dunks in buckets in their gardens. Members discussed having food, drinks, and entertainment on Earth Day at Town Commons. Molloy and Bregu indicated their interest in helping to plan this event. Nyland indicated her interest in promoting Earth Day in general throughout the Town.

Discuss How to Welcome and Onboard Advisory Board Members

Nyland introduced the topic and stated that she would like to ask new members whether there was anything that could have been done to welcome them and get them integrated in this any smoother fashion. Stover stated that he had prior experience with community boards so integrating was not an issue for him but having a welcoming process would be helpful. Bregu stated that having a master document type of resource would also be helpful. Randolph said he found the process to be good and had an informative interview with staff before joining that should be a standard practice. He also said for him, a way to improve would be to reduce the amount of time it takes between applying and being appointed. The group had additional suggestions, including having more information on agenda topics, reviewing the minutes from the last six months, sharing documents such as Inclusive Carrboro with new members, and updating the CAT's charge regarding the number of meetings. Stover mentioned that he was recently onboarded to the Orange County Commission for the Environment and they could use their onboarding process as a template or model for the CAT.

Discuss Upcoming Meeting Topics, Announcements

Town Council Member Posada introduced himself and stated that he was excited to learn more about the CAT and part of the reason that I wanted to join this specific Advisory Board just to see all the work that they do and learn from everyone. Pick asked for an update from the meeting that he and Molloy had with staff. He stated that the next steps were reviewing the feedback on their documents from staff and revisiting the CAT charge. Pick and Molloy discussed their takeaways from the meeting, including the emphasis on the CAT working collectively and that training/a toolkit from staff on outreach and the modules would be helpful. Molloy stated that the Town's insurance has said no to the request for invasive species workdays on Town property without staff presence. Town Council Member Haven-O'Donnell said they would need to revisit the question. Staff member Janway said she would provide Council Member Posada with more background information and would provide a further update from staff. Molloy also stated that staff clarified a question from a previous meeting about soliciting recipes from restaurants for the climate-friendly cookbook. All restaurants in Town would need to be consulted and restaurants could not be asked to donate gift cards or anything financial. Pick stated his takeaway from the meeting was how to balance working within the Town governance and how the Town operates but also making it as easy as possible for volunteers trying to activate the community during a climate emergency. Stover asked if this feeling of disempowerment was extending to other boards.

Pick stated his ideas for topics for the next meeting:

- 1) Feedback from staff on CAT documents
- 2) CAT charge
- 3) Earth Day
- 4) General Event Participation
- 5) Advocacy of climate action to the state

Danielewicz also mentioned a good topic for discussion would be Comprehensive Plan implementation and collaborating with other departments.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Nyland, seconded by Stover, all voted in favor. **AYES: (7) Stover, Randolph, Pick, Danielewicz, Nyland, Molloy, Pinder; NAYES: (0).** The meeting ended at 9:10 pm.