



CITY OF
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

**Environmental Technical Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 20, 2023
City Hall Chamber Conference Room**

Call to Order (Attendance, Agenda, Conflicts of Interest)

Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 15, 2023

Council Liaison Report

Chair Report

Discussion of GWMP Status

Discussion of SMP and Comp Plan review process

Call for Public Comment

Other Topics

Adjournment

Members Present:

Charlie Kratzer and Ben Harrison. Melanie Keenan and Malcolm Gander attended via Zoom.

Members Absent: Dylan Frazer, Brian Harmon (3 vacant positions)

COBI Staff and City Council Present:

Patty Charnas (Director, Planning & Community Development), Jon Quitslund (Council Liaison), Daria Hansen (Public Records Analyst)

Meeting called to order at: 3:02 p.m. No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: I make a motion to approve the July 20, 2023, agenda as presented.

Keenan/Harrison: Passed unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Motion: I make a motion to approve the June 15, 2023, minutes

Keenan/Harrison: Passed unanimously

Council Liaison Report (Jon Quitslund):

The ad-hoc committee created to review committees and commissions had its first meeting this morning. The question arose about modifying language in the municipal code in relation to committees. Let Jon know if there is any language that ETAC finds to be inaccurate or out of date. Discussion followed about the early purpose of ETAC, responsibilities, membership, and the need for flexibility.

In reference to the Rovelstad's comments last meeting about the herbicide usage on Bainbridge, an assessment is happening soon. Does ETAC want to take up this issue in future meetings? Yes, but unclear



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how to proceed formally, as it is a public issue vs. a Council directive. Jon will speak to Blair King about it and suggested a request to Council. Discussion followed.

Discussion on the GWMP is tentatively scheduled for the August 15 Council Study Session. Topics will include goals and outcomes. Any guidance or updates from ETAC to the Council would be helpful. The GWMP website needs to be updated.

There is a placeholder for the September 26 Council meeting to discuss the Shoreline Management Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan steering committee met last Thursday. Jon met the person hired to coordinate the plan; they are on the ball and ready to move forward.

Chair Report (Charlie Kratzer):

Charlie announced that tonight is his last ETAC meeting. He will be starting a new job with the Suquamish Tribe. A new committee Chair will be needed, and membership will be reduced to 5.

Ben and Charlie are planning on re-starting the open-mic science talks. Discussion is underway on start dates, times, and speakers. The first talk is planned for the second Tuesday in September. This may be a good venue to attract new ETAC members. Discussion followed.

Clarity from Council on how frequently they want GWMP updates is requested. Jon will discuss with Blair King.

Discussion of the GWMP status:

When will the subcommittee meetings resume now that the consultant has started? Melanie will ask Chris Wierzbicki.

Melanie and Malcolm are collecting arial photos, via the UW library and the Bainbridge Island GIS Department, to show the amount of vegetation loss over the decades. They are pursuing contact with a UW Climate Group to see if anyone has been studying deforestation in the Pacific Northwest over time.

Melanie and Malcolm are also working with an expert in water importation and desalinization, to document the expenses involved with operations, maintenance, and infrastructure of these options. They want to present the data to the City and the public so that the full costs and complexities are realized. Discussion followed.

Discussion of SMP and Comp Plan review process:

Patty updated the committee on new staff members, brief history of the SMP and goals to catch up on the backlog of shoreline permits. Clarification on guidelines and when to start this process will hopefully be



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provided by Council at the September 26 meeting. December 2024 is the legal date for completion of the new SMP but given the late start and the many interests that need to be included, it is anticipated that the plan will not be completed on time. Community engagement opportunities will begin in the Fall.

Are there other cities that Bainbridge can model SMP and Comp Plans after? Discussion followed.

Call for Public Comment:

No public comment.

Other Topics Raised:

How best to keep up on the GWMP website? Is it City staff's or the consultant's responsibility to update and maintain the website? How can the public enter in questions and concerns in a way that can be recorded and passed along to the consultant? Discussion followed.

Patty suggested everyone sign up for automatic updates from the Dept. of Ecology. There is a massive wetland mitigation bank being proposed for Kitsap. Discussion followed.

Is there any information on the salmon stream in the construction zone at Sportsman's Rd. and Hwy 3? No, Washington DOT is handling that project without City involvement.

Meeting adjourned at: 3:56 p.m.

Approved by:

Melanie Keenan, Committee Member

Daria Hansen, Public Records Analyst