



## ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS BOARD

### MINUTES

April 03<sup>rd</sup>, 2019  
Council Chambers, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, City Hall  
101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC

Voting Members – Matthew Kopac (chair), Jessalee Landfried (vice chair), Donald Addu (secretary), Roberto Valle Kinloch, Tyjuanna LaBennett, Rachel McIntosh-Kastrinsky, Laura Marie Davis, Casey Collins, Wafa Khalil, Matthew Pait, Matthew Herman

Ex Officio Members/Staff – Vicki Westbrook, Laura Woods, J.V. Loperfido, Tobin Freid, Muriel William, DeDreana Freeman, Javiera Caballero

**I. Call to Order at 6:02 pm**

**II. Approval of Minutes, 10-0**

**III. New Business and Continuing Business**

**a. The Scrap Exchange** – Ann Rebeck, Development Director for the Scrape Exchange:

- Creation of a Green Forum
- Once a month Classes and workshops at the Scrape Exchange
- An Expo that provides fun engagement on environmental education and features all local speakers
- Scrape exchange asks for the EAB to endorse the Green Forum
- EAB Vote 10-0 to approve endorsement for the Green Forum

**b. Duke Environmental Law and Policy Clinic** – Michelle Nowlin, Clinical Law Professor, presentation on Single-Use Plastics Elimination Roadmap (SUPER):

- Super is a voluntary program for businesses
- Plastic film is the single largest pollution in Ellerbee Creek
- Durham recycling center does not accept single use film plastics
- Film plastics are sent to a landfill in Sampson County
- To eliminate we need to refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle
- Voluntary, targeted approach
- Request the city create a certification and incentive program
- Reporting accountability from businesses to maintain certification with the goal of reducing single use plastics

- Annual evaluation of the SUPER program
- Potential partnership with Durham Public Schools
- Estimated annual cost of transportation of Durham's waste is \$450,000 as calculated by Don't Waste Durham
- Boston, New York, Washington DC and Boulder CO all have single use plastic bag bans
- Global warming potential (1 cotton bag = 131 plastic bags and 1 paper bag = 3 plastic bags)
- Restaurants need to ask if customers want straws instead of automatically providing them

c. **The Circular Economy** – Matt Kopack, EAB Member

- The average American creates 1 million pounds of waste each year
- It takes 22 tones for raw materials from nature to create 1 ton of steel
- 2.2 million people are imprisoned and locked out of the economy
- The living world is circular and our economy is linear
- Create building that can be constructed and then deconstructed
- In Durham, 79% of our waste goes to landfills and 21% is recycled
- Construction is a big opportunity for the city
- Charlotte is the first city in the country to look at a circular economy
- Can Durham be second?

**IV. Announcements –**

- a. Next EAB Meeting 5/1/2019 at 6:00 PM, 2nd floor Committee Room, City Hall
- b. Mayor Challenge for water conservation in the month of April. Mywaterpledge.com
- c. Toxins in the workplace – April 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Emily K. Center
- d. 100% Renewable Energy and Carbon Neutrality resolution passed on April 1<sup>st</sup>
- e. Durham's first protected bike lane and the longest in the state is now open

**Adjourn 7:21pm**

***Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act** - A person with a disability may receive an auxiliary aid or service to effectively participate in city government activities by contacting the ADA Coordinator, voice 919.560.4197 or ADA@DurhamNC.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.*