ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS BOARD
MINUTES

April 03rd, 2019
Council Chambers, 1st 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

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• 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 29th at 9:00 am at the Emily K. Center
d. 100% Renewable Energy and Carbon Neutrality resolution passed on April 1st
e. Durham’s first protected bike lane and the longest in the state is now open

**Adjourn 7:21pm**