

City of Amarillo
Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

On the 4th day of October 2011, the City of Amarillo Environmental Advisory Committee met at 12 Noon in City Hall Room 306, with the following members present:

John Sawyers Keith Grays Angie Hanna Amber Spencer Barbara Whitton
Michael Rice Julie White

Absent were:

Kim Vincent Rosemartha Cates Terence Ng

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. and the following items of business were conducted:

Reading of last meeting minutes, motion to accept the minutes as printed was made by Angie Hanna, seconded by John Sawyers, motion passed.

What Can I Recycle web page updates:

Barbara divided the "What Can I Recycle" pages among members. Committee members were asked to call the businesses listed to verify and update the information for the website.

Discussion of financially feasible and publicly supportable community outreach and education efforts:

Discussion was held about feasible and publicly supportable community outreach and education efforts. Several Ideas are as follows:

- Xeriscape Demo Garden
 - Make public aware of alternatives to water hungry grasses
 - Information about maintenance
 - Ornamental plants or different types of grasses (like buffalo)
 - Demo Garden Locations
 - Memorial Park
 - Contact the Public Improvement Districts in several developments
- Water Conservation
 - Committee Education
 - Public Education
 - Water Catchment / Harvesting
 - October 14, 2011 at 6:30 pm at St. Peters Episcopal Church there will be a water catchment demonstration.
 - Harvest water from swamp cooler air conditioners
- Public Education
 - Better stewards of resources
 - It doesn't have to be brown to be water wise
 - Economically Feasible
 - PSA
 - Beauty in all neighborhoods
 - Teach residents to maintain their property
 - Green mapping on website
 - Winterizing
 - Insulating pipes
 - Caulking windows
 - Fixing leaks

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It was discussed that each member of the committee do a 3 year comparison of their own water usage to educate themselves on how much water they are using.

Discussion was held about having a presentation with the Utilities Department about what the City's main water concern's are, residential water conservation, landscape watering and the Ogallala Aquifer.

Agenda for Next Meeting:

Presentation from the Utilities Department about various water conservation topics.

Review updates to the "What Can I Recycle" web page.

Discuss financially feasible and publicly supportable community outreach and education efforts.

Comments from Public:

Trina Fournier spoke to the committee about the following topics:

- Having a spot at the United Market Street Living Well Expo for educating the public
- Meetings at the Library
- Suggested that educating people about water conservation needs to come from the angle of money. People care about what it is costing them.
- Cost of landscaping
- Put basic gardening information on the City website.

With no other business to be conducted the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.