

Citizens Water Conservation Implementation Task Force

Regular Meeting

Minutes

Monday, April 28, 2008
625 E 10th Street, Room 104

Jennifer Walker called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm. Members in attendance: Margot Clarke, Norman Johns, Jody McDaniel, Rusty Osborne, Susan Roth, and Jennifer Walker.

- I. Approval of minutes from the March 24th meeting.
 - a. Susan Roth made a motion to approve the March 24th minutes. Rusty Osborne seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by all attending Task Force members.
- II. Citizen Communication
 - a. Bill Bunch, Save our Springs Alliance, encouraged the City of Austin to push water conservation further and be more aggressive in City of Austin water conservation strategies including education.
- III. Cost-of-service study briefing by Rusty Cobern, Division Manager of Austin Water Utility's (AWU) Financial Management Division
 - a. Paul Matthews from Red Oak Consulting, the consultants for the cost-of-service study was introduced
 - b. Rusty presented on the cost-of-service study: how the rate structure is currently set up, the public involvement aspect of the process, different items the utility is considering including an additional block rate for residential customers, excess use charges, and other possibilities.
- IV. Update on the Evapo-transpiration controller approval process by Austin Water Utility Conservation Program Specialist Sr., Karen Stewart
 - a. Karen Stewart presented on the Evapo-transpiration controller approval process. In 2007, the Water Conservation Task Force passed a recommendation to require Evapo-transpiration controllers on all new commercial properties with automatic irrigation systems. The Water Conservation Division of AWU is working on what the requirements for those controllers will be when the rules go into place.

- b. Citizen Task Force members requested that the presentation as well as the draft of the approval process be sent out to the Task Force so that comments could be made.
- V. Update from the Citizens Water Conservation Implementation Task Force's Irrigation Subcommittee
 - a. This item was postponed until the May 19th Task Force meeting.
- VI. Update on marketing efforts from the Water Conservation Division
 - a. Austin Water Utility (AWU) Water Conservation Division Manager, Sonja Stefaniw, reported on recent marketing efforts that the division has taken. After the marketing contract with TKO, Advertising Inc. was canceled in March, the division began working closely with EnviroMedia to alter some of their Water IQ messages to make them more specific to City of Austin programs and then utilize them for FY07.
 - b. Task Force members requested that the topic of marketing be placed on the May agenda.
- VII. The next meeting is scheduled for May 19th at 5:30 pm in the Waller Creek Center, Room 104.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.