

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting February 13th, 2025
NO QUORUM

The Environmental Advisory Board held a meeting on this date at 4:00 p.m. at 1004 4th Street, Sioux City, Iowa in which the following items were discussed:

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>GUESTS/PUBLIC</u>
Sam Dailey	Grace Perrin - excused	Estefani Valdez	Gayle Hattan
Sarah Nelson	Alex Johnson - excused	Arah Montagne	Eric Wissing
Corinne Erickson	Ryan Rozeboom - excused	Wade Schuldt	Casey Lee
	Danna Sanchez - excused		Madonna Nitzke
			Bob Fritzmeier
			Lexi McKee

CALL TO ORDER

The Environmental Advisory Board was called to order by Arah Montagne at 4:06 p.m. This meeting did not have a quorum, the January 9, 2025 meeting minutes could not be approved.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

2025 Events

Everyone is encouraged to think of different events for the board to attend. These things need to be planned ahead of time in order to complete event registrations. We're thinking about doing the Home Show next year since we have a lot of material we can give out that is fitting for this event. The Home Show is an all-day event that runs through the weekend which means we would need to have the support to make this happen.

Sarah would like to have a litter pickup day in addition to Litter Dash this year. Her goal is to have this event on a Saturday for those that are unable to attend the Litter Dash. Arah is currently ordering gloves and vests. Wade mentioned that IDOT will be doing a litter pick up program for individuals getting out of jail. They will be doing cleanups along the interstate and bypass. DOT will start doing this once a month.

Sam will be hosting an eco-event next to her building to bring all the different entities together. After receiving some feedback, this event will be held later in the year with warmer weather. It may be a good idea to have this event on September 20th for World Cleanup Day.

The Re-Event is coming up quickly. It will be held on Saturday, April 26th at the Citizens Convenience Center. The new supervisor for the CCC has been hired and will be helping with this event. As in previous years, we will be accepting tires and mattresses. We will not advertise this, but we will accept appliances if residents show up with them. The electronics take back event is held twice a year and is held at the CCC so that residents can get used to the convenience center. All materials are recycled in the US.

The Tire Take Back Event is still in the works. We're still seeing an increase in tires dumped around the city. Arah is working on the logistics with the new supervisor.

Styrofoam update from board members

Styrofoam is bad for landfills and contains carcinogens that contaminate our food when warmed up. A lot of the complaints that we've received from the public about Styrofoam have been geared towards Food Truck Fridays. We will have Danna provide an update on this during the March meeting.

Comments from Staff & Board Members

The Environmental Advisory Board currently has two vacancies. Arah encouraged the public to consider volunteering. Sam mentioned that one of the struggles is finding people to be involved. It's hard to accomplish big projects with the few people that we have attending.

Wade is helping with an initiative for the empty tree planters at the library. There are no water hookups at the library so Downtown Partners has agreed to water these. We are looking for groups that would like to help with the plantings.

Arah is also working with Downtown Partners to replace the empty grates in the sidewalk in the downtown area. The infrastructure doesn't allow for trees to grow here so trying to replace with some green space.

Arah talked about the Pulaski Park Drainage Project. The EAB will be involved with the planting of the bioswales for this project. The city received a grant to help with the cost. Bidding for work to be done by the beginning of fall. This will provide more green space and stormwater infrastructure at Morningside University.

Eric asked about recycling options for condos. Arah mentioned that some condos have a recycling option for their tenants. This was the big push for the downtown recycling containers. We have received 14 tons of non-co-mingled waste in the last 9 months. Arah also sent a letter to several downtown businesses regarding the litter in the alleyways.

Eric mentioned 25 on 25. He cleans the area from Heelan to the creek and is wondering if we can install nets on the storm drains to help collect litter. Arah would also like to see something like this installed but the city will not pay to empty the nets.

Casey brought up an odor concern along the Gordon Drive viaduct. Arah encouraged him to report this to the odor hotline. Arah also mentioned that the Floyd Lift Station is located along the interstate, so residents experience odor often. The upcoming WWTP improvements will help with odor control.

The members of the public that joined our meeting mentioned they liked having the meeting outside of City Hall. It's easy to find and less intimidating.

Libby Claeys will be giving a plant propagation class after the meeting. The goal is to have more green initiatives after the EAB meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Discussion ended at 4:52 p.m.

Recorded by Estefani Valdez