



**New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board
February 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board held a regular meeting on February 14, 2024 at the New Albany Village Hall. Mr. Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and asked to hear the roll.

II. Roll Call

Those answering roll call:

Mr. Filiatraut	absent
Ms. Duffy	absent
Mr. Harrold	present
Mr. Barnes	present
Mr. Schumacher	present
Mr. Conway	present
Ms. Gallo	present
Ms. McGraw	present
Council Member Kist	present

Having six voting members present, the board had a quorum.

Staff members present: Director of Administrative Services Joly, City Forester Hoessle.

III. Action of Minutes:

Mr. Schumacher stated copies of the January 2024 minutes have been distributed this evening but they had not been sent out ahead of the meeting. He asked whether the Board wished to take a minute to review the minutes and vote on them, or wait until the next meeting.

The consensus of the Board was to holdoff on voting until the March meeting.

Director of Administrative Services Joly stated staff will include the January 2024 minutes on the March 13, 2024 agenda.

IV. Additions or Corrections to Agenda

None

V. Hearing of Visitors for Items Not on Tonight's Agenda

Mr. Schumacher asked whether there were any visitors present who wished to address the board for an item not on tonight's agenda. Seeing none, he closed the hearing of visitors.

VI. Food Waste Compost Working Group Report

Director of Administrative Services Joly stated the working group met in January and invited any participating board members to provide a summary of that meeting.

Mr. Schumacher stated the working group discussed how they would like to proceed with the subcommittee and came up with a list of priorities:



- Enhancement of current drop-off program;
- Potential expansion into a pick-up program;
- Commercial waste; and
- School compost program.

Mr. Schumacher continued by stating one action item is to start working on a residential survey of those who are registered for the current program. New Albany currently has 334 residences registered for the drop-off program, which is 10% of the entire city. The working group is also interested in learning more about Upper Arlington's program that uses a pick-up vendor.

VII. Business:

- i. Food Waste Compost Program:
 - Presentation: Matt May, Earth Peak Organics - Director of Administrative Services Joly introduce Matt May with Earth Peak Organics. Mr. May and his colleague gave an overview of their company and the different divisions within their company, a presentation on a proposal they put together for the city of New Albany for a potential curbside pick-up compost collection program, and answered various questions from the board members.
 - Compost Program Survey - Director of Administrative Services Joly stated the presentation given by Earth Peak Organics is timely as the city is considering whether to expand the current program with potential for a pick-up program. In addition, she did want to mention that the city is looking to expand communication and awareness of the current program.

Director of Administrative Services Joly led a discussion on the survey. The discussion involved who does it go to, timing, and what questions should be asked.

The Board consensus was that the survey would be sent to existing program users and be available through New Albany Connects. The city staff would like to see the survey be open in early March and the data could be presented at the April SAB meeting.

The Board established a list of potential survey questions:

- Are you currently composting?
- Are you registered?
- How often do you compost?
- Are you interested?
- What are your biggest hurdles?
- Are you interested in a curbside service?
- How much would you be willing to pay for a curbside service?
- Are you interested in participating in a focus group?
- How many people are in your household?
- Why kind of housing type do you live in?

The Board discussed whether there could be opportunity for a lower rate of cost for trash pickup if they participate in a compost pick-up program. They noted that the city pays for recycling but not trash.



- ii. Earth Day to Arbor Day Planning – Director of Administrative Services Joly and City Forester Hoessle provided an update on the planning for Earth Day to Arbor Day activities.
 - a. The E-waste and household hazardous waste drives will be Saturday, April 27th from 8am-12pm.
 - b. The city staff received paperwork for the student leadership grant and are working with them on the purchase of their materials. The students did attend the farmer’s market and received 17 sign-ups for composting. Part of their grant is to participate in some sort of activity during Earth Day to Arbor Day week. It may be at the library and info will be included in the promotional materials once established.
 - c. Arbor Day Celebration: Tree planting activity at the park.
 - d. Other ideas include evening speakers/panel program, “1,000 hours outside”, and/or a Community Garden open house at Taylor Farm.

VIII. Other Business:

Annual Organizational Meeting:

Ms. Gallo moved to nominate Mr. Schumacher as chairperson, Mr. Filiatraut as vice-chairperson, and Ms. Duffy as secretary. Seconded by Mr. Barns and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the nominations.

Director of Administrative Services Joly asked if the Board would like to keep the same meeting date, time, and location of the meetings.

Mr. Conway moved to keep the same date, time, and place of monthly meetings. Seconded by Ms. Gallo and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the date, place, and time for the meetings as 6:30 PM on the second Wednesday of each month at Village Hall.

IX. Poll Members for Comment

Council Member Kist notified the Board of a code amendment going before City Council that may be of interest to them. He explained that one of the SAB members does not live in the city of New Albany but they are a teacher in the school district. The way the Ordinance is currently worded is that Board members have to live in the city. However, the Ordinance is being amended to state there must be one school district representative on the Board. This will allow the existing Board member to remain.

Mr. Conway stated if he can track it down, he would like to share an article he read about Intel, chip manufacturing, the environmental impact, and the mention of Ohio and Arizona. He found it interesting.

X. Adjournment

Having no further business, Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00p.m. Without objection, the February 14, 2024 New Albany Sustainability Board Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Chelsea Nichols, Planner II