



**New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board
May 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board held a regular meeting on May 14, 2025 at the New Albany Village Hall. Mr. Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and asked to hear the roll.

II. Roll Call

Those answering roll call:

Mr. Schumacher	present
Mr. Barnes	present
Ms. Gallo	present
Mr. Conway	present
Ms. Scott	present
Mr. Kocian	present
Ms. Kopelman	present
Council Member Kist	present
Student Representative Hall	absent

Staff members present: Director of Administrative Services, Adrienne Joly; Public Services Manager, Angela Hobart; Planner, Kylie Blackburn

III. Action of Minutes:

Mr. Schumacher moved to approve the April 9, 2025 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Conway and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 7 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the minutes.

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. Business:

i. Pocket Prairies:

Draft Plans presented by Cody Wright with Mad Scientist Associates LLC

- Taylor Farm Park:
 - 0.63 acres of planting area along frontage
 - 0.15 acres of wetland and 0.48 acres of upland
 - Short Meadow Mix on upland
 - Wetland Mix
 - Supplemental Wetland Plugs: Swamp Milkweed, Hibiscus, Wool Grass, Bullrush, Smooth Rush, Blue Flag Iris, Arrowhead, New England Aster
- Planters Grove Park:
 - 1.22 acres of planting area



- Riparian/wet meadow (0.09 acres): Seed mix and plus including Swamp Milkweed, Hibiscus, Wool Grass, Bullrush, Smooth Rush, Blue Flag Iris, Arrowhead, New England Aster
- Tall Meadow Mix (0.47 acres)
- Short Meadow mix (0.66 acres)
- James River Park: 4166 James River Road New Albany Ohio 43054
 - 100 Square Yard Decentration Bed
 - a. Option 1 is more shade (centering on the curve) and option 2 is more sun (shifting it more north)
 - b. Existing trees
 - c. Still waiting on the comprehensive layout for this park
 - d. Board suggested that this plan be altered to create a circle at the edge of the walkway.
- Next Steps:
 - Site Preparation
 - Taylor Farm & Planters Grove – Invasive species management/turf kill and follow-up spot treatment
 - James River Park: turf kill, follow-up spot treatment, and bed edging
 - Install
 - Taylor Farm and Planters Grove:
 - Seeding - fall 2025 and/or spring 2026
 - Plug Planting – fall 2025
 - Straw – thin layer to reduce erosion/seed loss
 - Jams River Park:
 - Container/plug planting – fall 2025
 - Mulching

Director of Administrative Services Joly:

- Communication to residents: temporary signage, mailing, open house
 - Permanent signage will be discussed at a future meeting
- ii. 2025 Invasive Trade-in Program Update
- Up to \$500 incentive – green light given by Council
 - Two applications have been submitted. Were submitted prior to incentive increase.
 - 6827 Central College Rd
 - a. Honeysuckle (2 big) removed
 - b. Canadian Hemlock (1) planted
 - 8265 Parsons Pass
 - a. Burning Bush (4) removed
 - b. Smooth Hydrangea (8) planted



Board Member Scott shared info on places people can get their plantings: Monarch Meadows and Leaves or Wildlife.

iii. Earth Day to Arbor Day Update:

- Green Guardian Info Session/Training & Sign-ups:
 - 17 attendees, 15 of those people filled out volunteer applications, 4 people have signed up to work shifts at events
 - Staff to share info with Healthy New Albany and Community Garden Director
- Arbor Day Tree Planting: 350 trees
 - Board Member Kopelman suggested partnering with Healthy new Albany as they had a nature event taking place at the same location and same time
 - Public Services Manager Hobart: A new Forest has been hire; Will King
- E-waste drive, HHW collection, and paper shredding event:
 - Approx. 1,200 cars (based on Placer AI data); up from 400 cars in 2024. Had to shut down and turn people away at noon.
 - 500 cars the first hour
 - Could not have gone any smoother than it did with the officer showing up to help direct traffic
 - 40% of people came from 43054
 - Other zip codes visits were discussed
 - 1 full paper shredding truck = 6,281 lbs. of paper collected, shredded & recycled!
 - 20,897 lbs. of e-waste collected and recycled (in 2024 we did 7,750 lbs. That is a 176% increase!)
 - HHW: "How did you advertise? We have never seen anything like this before." This took the longest time because so many people had so much stuff.
 - Board member Conway suggested that it be a ticketed event
 - Council Member Kist suggested that the city promote the SWACO drop off center
 - The Communications Team is going to release a follow-up statement. The tone of the message is positive and encouraging but also reminds people to see out recycling options closer to home.
 - Board Member Scott suggested the Board think of ways that the city can encourage people to reuse things in addition to recycling.
- Nature Exploration Day:
 - Nature Exploration Day: May 1st from 6-7:30pm at Taylor Farm Park
 - Family-friendly event was presented by the City of New Albany, COSI, and New Albany-Plain Local Schools.
 - Farm animals/petting zoo.
 - Compost worm stations – thank you Molly!



- Healthy New Albany reps helped kids and their families plant seeds in the Community Garden.
- Native plant expert shared knowledge about native plants.
- Kids were also able to embark on a fun scavenger hunt with prizes – thank you, Pete!
- Over 50 kids and their families attended.

VII. Other Business: *None*

VIII. Poll Members for Comment:

Board Member Conway asked about the dead trees at Taylor Farm Park. Director of Administrative Services Joly stated the contractor will replant the trees.

Board Chair Schumacher stated:

- He will not be at the July meeting and suggested that with the summer months approaching that Board members notify staff as soon as possible if they plan to miss a meeting.
- Talked to staff about starting a review of 2025 at the June meeting. Encouraged Board members to review the work plan.

Director of Administrative Services Joly: The Curbside Food Waste proposal were due today. Staff received four. Those will be brought to the Board in June.

IX. Adjournment: Having no further business, Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51p.m. Without objection, the May 14, 2025 New Albany Sustainability Board Meeting was adjourned.