



**New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board
June 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order

The New Albany Sustainability Advisory Board held a regular meeting on June 11, 2025 at the New Albany Village Hall. Mr. Schumacher called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked to hear the roll.

II. Roll Call

Those answering roll call:

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

Staff members present: Public Services Manager, Angela Hobart
Planner II, Chelsea Nichols

III. Action of Minutes:

Mr. Schumacher moved to approve the May 14, 2025 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Conway and the Sustainability Advisory Board voted with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstention to approve the minutes.

IV. Additions or Corrections to Agenda:

Planner II Nichols stated that staff had items to add under Other Business:

- E-Waste Award
- Green Guardians Shirts
- Hefty ReNew
- New SWACO Program

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. RFP Review:

Planner II Nichols led the discussion with the Board in reviewing the four proposals the city received for the Pilot Curbside Food Waste Collection Program.

The Board did not make a recommendation on which proposal to accept for the pilot curbside food waste program. They need a little more time to review the proposals and



asked staff to do some reference checks on all the vendors. They also came up with a list of follow-up questions that staff is to send to each of the four companies:

- Do you have a list of references you would like for us to contact?
- Are there any other “hidden fees” that might arise? Such as tipping fees for hauling and dumping the food waste/compostable items?
- Will you continue to provide the services in the winter?
- What colors buckets will be used?
- What is your ideal implementation plan?

ii. Pocket Prairies:

Planner II Nichols lead the discussion:

- Open House
 - To be held Wednesday, June 18th from 4:30-6pm at James River Park and Planters Grove Park
 - Residents can view plans and chat with the project team
 - Pocket Prairie info has been launched on the city’s website.
 - Neighbor letters were mailed on 6/4/25 to homes located within 200 feet of both James River Park and Planters Grove Park (21 homes in total received a letter).
 - The Communications team published Pocket Prairies Open House info in two CONNECTS newsletters.
 - Temporary Signs will be installed at all three parks at the Pocket Prairies sites.
 - Social media post(s) to be made by Communications team.
- Future Signage Discussion
 - The Board likes the examples shown by staff that were from the MKSK website. Ms. Gallo offered to help in anyway needed.

iii. Mid-Year Review:

Planner II Nichols lead the discussion:

The Board would like staff to figure out how to get better participation in the Student Leaders in Sustainability Grant. There has been low interest as far as the number of applications they have received in the past two years. Perhaps it would be good to look at the application prosses and make it a little easier. The Board would like for city staff to promote the grant program better.

The Board would like updates to the webpage as far as the composting information goes.



VII. Other Business:

- i. E-Waste Award:
 - a. For the second year in a row, the city of New Albany has been awarded by Columbus Micro Systems with the Earth Day E-waste Recycling Drive Award. The city won the Municipality category with most pounds collected. The city collected 20,897 lbs. of e-waste at the April event.
 - b. The city collected 50,348 pounds of hazardous household waste. This was up from 23,659 pounds in 2024.
- ii. Green Guardians Shirts:
 - a. For those who did not get their Green Guardians shirts, staff brought them this evening.
- iii. Hefty ReNew:
 - a. The Board would like staff to contact Hefty to see if they would supply us with 150 Hefty Renew starter kits to distribute to homeowners participating in the pilot curbside food waste program. If they say no, staff should purchase the bags and then assemble/distribute the kits to those homeowners.
- iv. New SWACO Program:
 - a. Business Resources – The SWACO Business Recycling & Food Waste Champions program provides free signage, education, indoor containers, and service reimbursements.

VIII. Poll Members for Comment:

Tonight is Mr. Conway's final meeting as a member of the SAB. The Board members recognized him for his four years of service to the community.

- IX. Adjournment:** Having no further business, Mr. Schumacher moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10p.m. Without objection, the June 11, 2025 New Albany Sustainability Board Meeting was adjourned.