



Meeting Minutes

Sustainability Advisory Board

Wednesday, June 4th, 2025

6:30 PM

1. Call Meeting to Order

- Karen calls the meeting to order at 6:30pm

2. Roll Call and Verification of Quorum

- Present: *Mackenzie McClaskey, Karen Winkler, Rick Kattar, Anne Walsh, Renaldo Grami*
- Absent: *Art Henderlong*

3. Approval of the Agenda

- Anne motions to approve, Rick seconds, approved.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Rick motions to approve, Anne seconds, approved.

5. General Business

- A. Council member updates (Councilors Pesaramelli & Hoback)
 - a. No updates
 - b. Anil met with Friends of Coal Creek on Friday.
- B. Staff member updates (Eryka Thorley)
 - a. Eryka, Emma & Caleb in GJ this week, attending co summit for recycling. EPR, compost and relationship building across the state.
 - b. Staff attended the annual Recycle Colorado Summit in Grand Junction this week. Major topics included EPR, compost, and relationship building across the waste space in the state.
 - c. Water wise landscape ordinance received its final staff review and suggested edits this week. The draft ordinance high-level topics and recent state legislation will be shared with the home builder's association on June 18. after this review, the draft ordinance will go to legal review and then shared with residents, developers via an engage Erie page and other strategic outreach.
 - d. Farmer's Market last week was successful. The engagement calendar was updated to include two Farmer's Market events a month for June and July. The plan is to revisit the calendar for August and September events in early mid-July.
 - e. The town applied for a 2024 recycling rebate for the recycling center hauling cost. This rebate is facilitated by CDPHE.
 - f. There are a couple big grants that Sustainability division are working on, including the application for fleet EV charging from the state, Denver regional coalition of government policy grant, and a recently launched Colorado energy office climate accelerator grant.
 - g. The USA again bin was delivered to the recycling center today. This bin will collect slightly used clothes and shoes.
 - h. The town has gone through all of its garden in a box discounts for the 2025 season, but there remains many slow the flow audits and turf replacement support from resource Central. If you know anyone that could benefit from either of these programs, please let

them know.

- i. Wildfire Partners is offering a \$500 grant for specific home mitigation upgrades. This is only available for Boulder County residents but is a great opportunity to get some financial support or even payment for your own time to do mitigation projects recognized in the grant.
 - j. Zero waste at events continues in Erie. If you know anyone that would be excited to be a zero waste champion, please send them to Emma.
- C. SAB Vacancy Appointments & Vote (SAB All)
- a. Karen thanks all applicants for their submissions, it's great to see so many high-quality candidates and notes that it is unfair that we have to narrow our choice down to one individual and we hope that those not chosen understand that it's not that we don't want them, we just don't have the capacity.
 - b. Katheleen has industry experience, flexibility and time to devote to the board. Strong program implementation and inclusivity. Sustainability consulting.
 - c. Alan has board experience with Parks Advisory Board, no direct industry experience but strong volunteer track record. Community educator & highly curious.
 - d. Roxana has board experience with Peer Mentorship Board, no direct industry experience but inclusive and grant experience. Active listening from community.
 - e. Rick notes on the social justice from Katheleen and Roxana; Anne is partial to Katheleen as her resume is similar; Renaldo agrees with Rick regarding resumes and likes Katheleen and comments that someone new to the community would be a great addition to the board; Mackenzie thinks all candidates would be great options and the decision will be difficult but is also partial to Katheleen.
 - f. Rick asks about why we must limit the number of volunteers to our board. Karen mentions that each board is under an umbrella ordinance and is therefore equal in size to the other boards.
 - g. Karen makes a motion to select Katheleen for our candidate recommendation to Town Council, second by Anne, approved.
- D. Extended Producer Responsibility Overview (Rick Kattar)
- a. Starting Jan 2026, recycling will be available to all that have trash service. Anything not recyclable will be made a problem for the packaging producers to encourage them to change through penalties. Circular Action Alliance (CAA) was chosen as the PRO.
 - b. Rick is on the Subject Matter Expert on MRF (materials recycling facility) for the State Advisory Board. Shelly from Boulder's Household Hazardous Waste and others are working on a battery EPR.
 - c. We are the first state with the PRO that are actually going to execute, but 7th doing it with regulations.
 - d. Anne asks if we anticipate seeing volume of actual materials increase.
 - e. Mixed layers makes it harder for them to recycle.
 - f. Anne mentions wanting to do something to collect batteries in Erie.
- E. SAB Budget Recap 2025 & 2026 Proposal (Karen Winkler)
- a. Actual budget is \$10,000 not \$13,000. For 2025 we need to look at what that means for existing programming and what budget to request for 2026.
 - b. Already committed to Eco-cycle in spring and fall amounted to \$4k each
 - c. \$500 budgeted for outreach & engagement like swag.
 - d. We were unable to support Clean up day waste costs, Eryka picked that up since we had no budget.
 - e. Arbor/Earth Day scaled back our \$1k commitment was scaled back to \$500 for prizes & equipment.
 - f. Strategic waste diversion plan is scrapped since there's no budget.
 - g. Karen would like to vote on Community Fruit Rescue (CFR) budget. For \$1,500 we could make that happen this year and the Tree Advisory Board (TAB) agrees to split cost, so it comes to \$750. If so, we would be left with \$250. Would like to propose purchasing bee hotels for next year (spring) with that remainder.

- h. Anne motions to approve use of remaining 2025 budget for \$750 for CFR and \$250 for (30) bee hotels. Rick seconds, approved.
- i. 2026:
 - i. If we were to ask for \$16k we can do everything we want to do next year and still have a little wiggle room
 - ii. Rick mentions that EPR will be in place next year and education on it will be compensated by the PRO.
 - iii. Rick says why not ask for \$20k and Anne motions to ask for \$20k. Mackenzie seconds. Approved. Karen will increase budget for the pollinator surveys to meet 20k.
- F. Public Engagement (Karen Winkler)
 - a. Is anyone available to help on June 29th at Garden Tours at Schofield Farm. Mackenzie can do it.
 - b. Also need someone for the August 2nd Erie Fest, 1-5pm.
- G. Update on SAB Ordinance Revisions (Anne Walsh)
 - a. Virtual is not an option.
 - b. Anne talked with Michele; ordinance was just finalized so we can ask for alternates, but it would not be changed or added any time soon.
 - c. Anne will pursue it further and report back.
- H. Pollinator District Application Process (Mackenzie McClaskey)
 - a. Went to Pollinator Survey training on Sunday (free) at the Butterfly Pavilion and feels confident she can identify if something is a bee, fly or wasp, probably.
 - b. Need to determine where to do the pollinator surveys around Erie.
 - i. Reached out to Planning Committee to get an idea of where to do surveys to get a spread of different areas.
 - c. Would be great to get volunteers for June through October to conduct the Pollinator Surveys, having a signup sheet at the events we attend would be great, as well as adding to the newsletter to join the effort. What should we call the volunteers?
Buzz Brigade | Pollinator Patrol | Bloom Crew | Pollinator Guardians
 - i. Karen likes Pollinator Protectors / Guardians / Patrol
 - d. Still determining who would know the various areas of the rubric to find gaps in our current standing.
 - e. Mackenzie is attending the OSTAB meeting on the 9th to keep them up to date on things.
 - f. Bee hotel at Erie Community Park: Tom Reed is open to installing a post for us to add a SAB sponsored Bee Hotel as a trial of sorts without any formal agreement between the town and the board. He also requests some basic information be posted on it that explains who donated it and who maintains it, plus any contact information for folks who have questions. Do we have budget to buy one, because if not, Mackenzie can likely use any extras from the Bee Hotel workshop for that. Mackenzie proposes a sign

that says the following:

Native Bee Hotel

Donated & Maintained by
Erie Sustainability Advisory Board (sab@erieco.gov)

This bee hotel offers a safe home for solitary native bees—like mason bees and leafcutter bees—that are vital pollinators in our community.

-  Mason bees will cap their nesting tubes with mud.
-  Leafcutter bees use tiny pieces of leaves to seal theirs.

Unlike honeybees, these gentle bees don't live in hives or make honey, and they rarely sting.

-  Please look, but don't touch—thanks for helping us protect our pollinators!

I. Board member updates (SAB All)

a. Mackenzie

- i. Says Via Transportation is not the same as Via Mobility, who did not respond to inquiry on Recycling transportation.
- ii. Proposed content for our SAB website page Eryka has mentioned. Can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/view/sustainability-advisory-board/home>
 1. Karen motions to approve the concept, to discuss content in the next meeting. Second by Anne, approved.
- iii. Mackenzie asks about the newsletter: could we have a call to action to volunteer for the Pollinator Surveys? Yes.
 1. **[ACTION]**: Reach out to Emma about adding it

b. Karen:

- i. Vendor survey from Arbor/Earth Day is complete, will send out this week.
- ii. SAB, TAB debrief is tomorrow at 2pm
- iii. Mentions that Councilor Pesaramelli is sponsor of Pollinator Proclamation.
- iv. Pollinator Map effort, Buzzing Gardens is going well, getting buy in from the Parks department.
- v. Discussing with Cindy Hickman of Parks and Rec and Erie Foodbank to discuss about CFR and find local recipients for the fruit that is recovered during harvests. Working with a way to coordinate with Ecocycle or another composter to pick up the compost as well from the harvest site.
- vi. Does anyone on SAB have issue with harvest leaders having code for SAB shed? No.

6. Adjournment

- Adjourned at 8:30pm next meeting is July 2nd, 6:30pm.

