



**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

**City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Room**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. 04-16-25 meeting minutes

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Progress updates on the Tree Inventory & Management Plan, Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Program, Municipal Waste Study, and status updates for the potential pollinator gardens, Environmental Action Plan and the potential addition of statutory ex-officio members.

B. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**7. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

(3-Minute Limit)

**8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**9. NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, 06-18-25 AT 6:00PM**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 04-16-25**  
**MEETING MINUTES (PREPARED 04-30-25)**  
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Date: Wednesday, 04-16-25

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

**I. Call to Order** *Chairperson Kazmier called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.*

**II. Roll Call**

**Present:** *Commissioner Kelli Kazmier (Chair)*  
*Commissioner Andrew Johnson*  
*Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood*  
*Commissioner Samantha Kloos*

**Absent:** *Commissioner Jane Flores*

**Staff:** *Jeffrey Crow, City of Jackson Engineering*

**III. Adoption of the Agenda**

*Motion made by Commissioner Heck Wood and seconded by Commissioner Kloos to approve the agenda as presented approved unanimously.*

**IV. Approval of the minutes for the 03-12-25 meeting**

*Motion made by Commissioner Kazmier and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes for the 03-12-25 meeting as presented approved unanimously.*

**V. Old Business**

- i. Progress updates on the Tree Inventory & Management Plan, Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Program, Municipal Waste Study, and status updates for the Environmental Action Plan and the potential addition of statutory ex-officio members.*

*Commissioner Kazmier requested that Mr. Crow discuss the progress updates on the above-mentioned items, to which Mr. Crow responded in the affirmative.*

*Mr. Crow provided the following updates: the consultant performing the Tree Inventory & Management Plan is mobilizing next week with a completion date of October 2025. The City is reviewing the Consumers Energy Renewable Energy Program for a potential recommendation to City Council. The Municipal Waste Study is nearly complete but currently on hold pending further staff direction. There are no updates on the adoption of the Environmental Action Plan or the potential addition of statutory ex-officio members to the Commission.*

*ii. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities*

*Commissioner Kazmier discussed an overview of the "LEED for Cities and Communities" documents attached the 01-15-25 agenda packet, the two memos attached the 02-12-25 agenda packet, and Mr. Crow's responses to the memos attached the 03-12-25 agenda packet. She summarized the Commission's decision to conduct an informal and preliminary evaluation of the City's current standing on various issues for use with estimating a baseline score pertaining to LEED certification. She also discussed last meeting's decision to select topics from the second memo for further review and research, where Commissioner Johnson selected power access, reliability, resiliency, energy efficiency and renewable energy, Commissioner Flores selected economic growth, housing and transportation affordability, and civil and human rights, and Commissioner Kazmier selected demographic and social equity, quality of life performance, and social services infrastructure.*

*Commissioner Kazmier requested that Commissioner Johnson discuss his findings on his selected topics, to which Commissioner Johnson responded in the negative and mentioned that more time is needed. She then asked Commissioners Johnson to discuss his findings at the next meeting, to which he responded in the affirmative.*

*Commissioner Kazmier then proceeded to discussed her findings on demographic and social equity, quality of life performance, and social services infrastructure. She mentioned that at least 4 points in the Quality of Life scoring category appear to be easily obtainable. She then discussed an overview on the nine scoring categories and mentioned that 40 out of 110 points are required to achieve LEED certification.*

*Commissioner Kloos asked Commissioner Kazmier if "LEED for Cities and Communities" is intended to replace the Environmental Action Plan, to which Commissioner Kazmier responded in the negative.*

*Commissioner Kazmier mentioned that the scoring metrics for LEED certification, along with the data collected during the review and baseline score estimation process, could help support future discussions related to the Environmental Action Plan.*

*Commissioner Kazmier suggested that Commissioner Heck Wood and Commissioner Kloos select responses on specific topics within the first memo to review and research according to their individual interests.*

*Commissioners Heck Wood and Commissioner Kloos responded in the affirmative and proceeded to choose topics from the first memo. Commissioner Heck Wood selected green building policy and incentives, green spaces and light pollution reduction, while Commissioner Kloos selected compact, mixed use and transit oriented development, safe multimodal accessibility, and clean transportation.*

*Commissioner Kazmier volunteered to take on the remaining topics in the first memo: priority development sites, water access and quality, water performance, integrated water management, and smart water systems.*

## **VI. New Business**

*Commissioner Kloos asked if Arbor Day will be proclaimed this year by the Mayor, to which Commissioner Kazmier responded that the Environmental Commission has not prepared a letter of recommendation to the Mayor for such proclamation.*

*Commissioner Kazmier mentioned and Commissioner Kloos agreed that Commissioner Kazmier may prepare a letter of recommendation for the Mayor to proclaim Arbor Day this year if time allows.*

*Commissioner Kloos discussed the possibility of repurposing City-owned lots into community gardens or parks. She mentioned that she had previously spoken with Mr. Mays (Grant Coordinator, Community Development Department) regarding the availability of a map showing City-owned vacant lots for use with determining which vacant lots could be repurposed, to which Mr. Mays reported in the negative.*

*Commissioner Kazmier retrieved and presented a map of City-owned properties and offered it to Commissioner Kloos to review and identify irregularly-shaped City-owned lots for vacancy determination.*

*Mr. Crow mentioned that he will search for additional maps, if available, to support the review and identification of irregularly-shaped City-owned lots for vacancy determination.*

*Mr. Crow suggested and Commissioner Kloos agreed that Commissioner Kloos will continue to communicate with Mr. Mays about the possibility of repurposing City-owned vacant lots into community gardens or parks.*

## **VII. Citizen Comments**

*None.*

### **VIII. Commissioner Comments**

*Commissioner Kazmier requested that Mr. Crow provide a status update on the potential for pollinator gardens on City-owned properties, including whether the seed mix she recommended in September 2024 is being considered. She also requested that the two previously mentioned memos attached the 03-12-25 agenda packet be attached to next month's agenda packet.*

### **IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 05-14-25 at 6:00pm**

### **X. Adjournment**

*Motion made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Heck Wood to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:13 pm.*