

**Minutes  
Royal Oak Environmental Advisory Board Meeting  
Mahany/Meininger Senior Community Center  
3500 Marias Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48067**

**Wednesday, April 26th, 2023  
7:00pm**

1. Call to order at 7pm.
2. The agenda was approved unanimously.
3. March 2023 minutes were approved unanimously.
4. Public Comment:
  - a. Royal Oak resident Ted Strunck shared some information about this solar-powered home and urged the EAB to support community solar.
  - b. Huntington Woods resident David Sloan introduced himself.
5. New Business.
  - a. Susan Barkman, assistant to the city manager, announced that she will be responsible for tracking the city's effort to meet the city's strategic plan, aging in place, and S-Cap goals.
  - b. After a long discussion the EAB voted unanimously to request the city manager to appoint a full-time Sustainability Manager to implement S-Cap goals. One important reason a full-time staff person is needed is to run down and apply for grants. Moved by Paul Vial and seconded by Woody Gontina.
6. City Commissioner Report: Kyle DuBuc.
  - a. Kyle was absent from the EAB meeting because he had to attend a city budget meeting.
7. Director of Public Services and Recreation Report: Aaron Filipki.
  - a. The recent ordinance governing fugitive dust at demolitions is now being enforced and signs should soon appear at demolitions notifying neighbors of what the rules are and how to complain.
  - b. The city may implement food waste recycling when the SOCCRA contract is renegotiated in 2027.
  - c. The city will plant 450 native trees in spring 2023.
8. Unfinished business
  - a. Andrew Sarpolis reported on attendance and actions at the April 2023 Earth Day event, and briefly discussed plans for next year.
  - b. Tom Regan reported that the Community Garden would likely expand to Oakland Elementary in Spring 2024.
  - c. Woody Gontina noted that he was searching for a pesticide expert to guide environmentally-minded legislators who are seeking to limit the damage caused by use of pesticides.

- d. Amanda will send out a poll asking EAB members to agree to dates to two makeup meetings for the weather-cancelled January and February meetings.

The meeting adjourned around 8:50pm.