

**Mayor**  
Christy Clark

**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Jennifer Hunt

**Commissioners**  
Scott Coronet  
Edwin Quarles  
LaToya Rivers  
Heather Smallwood  
Nick Walsh



**Town Manager**  
Anthony Roberts

**Deputy Town Manager**  
Jackie Huffman

**Assistant Town Manager**  
Bobby Williams

**Town Attorney**  
Emily Sloop

**Town Clerk**  
Janet Pierson

## **AGENDA**

### **Environmental Sustainability Committee Meeting**

**August 13, 2026 - 3:30 PM**

**TOWN HALL (14704 N Old Statesville Road)**

#### **Town Board Liaison:**

**Advisory Board Members:** Chair Diane McLaine, Vice-Chair Padma Priya Jayaram, Heiner Dornberg, Dana Hicks, Trisha Knight, Anne Marie O'Neill, Natalie Paavola, Tim Sanborn, Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer Hunt, Lisa Zelina

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
  - 2.A. Approval of Minutes
- 3. Public Comments, Requests, or Presentations**
- 4. Business**
  - 4.A. September Cleanup Logistics
  - 4.B. Webpage Content Discussion
  - 4.C. Town Board Presentation - Final Review
  - 4.D. ESC Colors - Updates and Committee Input
  - 4.E. Special Speaker Discussion - Schedules and Prioritization
  - 4.F. Potential September Special Meeting - Wildlife Speaker
  - 4.G. Mecklenburg Recycling Tour Date Discussion

4.H. Neighborhood Composting Discussion

4.I. Grower's Market - "Water Station" Discussion

## 5. Adjourn

### General Meeting Information

#### **Environmental Sustainability Committee:**

This Committee advises and makes recommendations to the Town Board about Huntersville's environmental sustainability efforts. The committee does this by focusing on four priority areas: Community Education and Engagement, Green Building and Infrastructure, Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Enhancing Natural Beauty and Livability. Each committee member is appointed for a term of not more than three (3) years. For more information, visit [www.huntersville.org](http://www.huntersville.org).

#### **Meeting Time, Place and Agenda:**

All meetings are open to the public and the public is invited and encouraged to attend. The Committee meets in the Town Center at 3:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month (unless otherwise posted). Agendas are published Mondays before the meeting on our website. The Commission reserves the right to deviate from the agenda.

#### **Public Comment and Public Hearing Policy:**

Persons desiring to address the Board during the public comment period or a public hearing shall sign up via the speaker sign-up sheet no later than five (5) minutes prior to the designated meeting start time. Once the meeting has begun, a person may not sign up to speak. Persons who have signed up to speak shall be allowed to speak for up to three (3) minutes. The Mayor shall have the discretion to shorten the allotted speaking time depending on the number persons registered to speak and in consideration of the length of the agenda. *(Public Comment and Public Hearing Policy - Amended March 3, 2026)*

#### **Special Accommodations:**

Please contact the Town Clerk, 72 hours prior to the meeting, for special accommodations to attend this meeting and/or if this information is needed in an alternative format. Janet Pierson can be reached at [clerk@huntersville.org](mailto:clerk@huntersville.org) or 704-875-6541.

## **Environmental Sustainability Committee – Regular Meeting Minutes**

### **July 9, 2026 Meeting**

**Members Present:** Diane McLaine (Chair), Priya Jayaram (Vice Chair), Lisa Zelina, Dana Hicks, Tim Sanborn, Heiner Dornburg, Trisha Knight, and Natalie Paavola

**Members Absent:** Anne Marie O'Neill

**Town Elected Officials and Staff Present:** Jennifer Hunt, Town Commissioner; Mary Propst, Town Arborist; Brad Priest, Assistant Planning Director

### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Diane McLaine called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

The June 11, 2026 meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Lisa Zelina, seconded by Heiner Dornburg and approved unanimously.

### **3. Public Comments, Requests, or Presentations**

There were no public comments, requests, or presentations.

### **4. Business**

#### **4.A. Treasure Tree Criteria – Next Steps**

Brad Priest and Mary Propst presented the staff proposed Treasure Tree criteria and selection process to the committee. Staff recommended that proposed trees qualify as Specimen Trees under the Town's zoning ordinance to provide a minimum amount of development protection, and to ensure the trees reach a certain size and maturity expected of significant trees. The tree would then be forwarded to the Environmental Sustainability Committee to review the tree's locational, historic, and cultural significance for final determination.

Members discussed the use of existing native tree lists and property owner permission. The Town Arborist may continue to assess Treasure Tree health if requested.

The committee also discussed public access, homeowner expectations, and protecting private property. Members agreed Treasure Trees would be best if visible

from a public street, park, or greenway, with website language encouraging visitors to respect private property. Groups of trees may also qualify, and future webpage features may include QR codes and tree descriptions.

Although the committee's consensus was that trees visible from public property would be best for consideration, the committee did not want to eliminate the possibility of treasure trees being nominated in town based solely on that aspect. The committee agreed to revise Criteria #3 by correcting the typo to "sustainability" and also remove the requirement that trees be viewable from a public space. Trees not visible from public spaces would be reviewed and advertised on the website on a case-by-case basis.

Diane McLaine moved to approve the Treasure Tree criteria as amended. Natalie Paavola seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **4.B. Confirm September Recycling Center Visit**

Staff reported that Mecklenburg County has not yet confirmed dates for the Recycling Center visit. If a quorum of the committee attends the tour, the visit must be publicly noticed as a meeting. The committee agreed to keep the item on a future regular meeting agenda for now. Lisa suggested October or November as alternative dates if September is unavailable.

#### **4.C. Finalize Board Presentation**

Diane reported that the upcoming presentation only needs to be converted to the Town powerpoint template and it will be ready to go. The committee discussed moving the presentation from the July 21<sup>st</sup> Town Board meeting to the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Diane estimated the presentation would last approximately five minutes and she would circulate the updated presentation for member review before the final date.

#### **4.D. Neighborhood HOA Composting Interest**

Priya Jayaram encouraged members to determine whether their Homeowners Association (HOA) would like a presentation on composting. Priya and Lisa Zelina will lead presentations, and Trisha Knight will confirm interest from her HOA.

Priya shared results from the Growers Market outreach, where most residents were unfamiliar with Mecklenburg County's food waste composting program. Survey responses also received from the public indicated the majority currently compost at home, while several expressed interest in neighborhood composting. Members recommended collecting HOA names during future outreach.

Lisa shared the success of the Plaza Midwood composting pilot and reported that approximately 40 compost buckets have been distributed. The committee's goal is to complete at least two HOA presentations before year-end.

#### **4.E. Review Goals and Updates**

##### **Review Goals / Calendar Event Discussion**

Each Committee member reviewed their updates and goal progress on the committee checklist and spreadsheet. See attached.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16g5Ot\\_E-0rqovaluIRvxlhGC0VXkZeA/edit?gid=569531632#gid=569531632](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/16g5Ot_E-0rqovaluIRvxlhGC0VXkZeA/edit?gid=569531632#gid=569531632)

#### **5. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Diane motioned, Lisa seconded and the motion passed unanimously.