

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, ESTABLISHING THE ECOLOGICAL ADVOCACY
COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C. 36-10-3-10 the Board of Park commissioners of the City of South Bend (“Park Board”) exercises general supervision over the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of South Bend (“Park Department”) and, pursuant to I.C. 36-10-4-9, has exclusive control of all property within the City used for park purposes; and

WHEREAS, the many lands under the control of the Park Board are, as a whole, populated with a wide and divergent variety of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of South Bend, and the Park Department that care and attention be given to the long-term nurturing and management of the City’s natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board desires to expand the resolution which created the Urban Forestry Advisory Committee that expired on December 31, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend Parks 5 year Master Plan (2014-2018) calls to “strengthen the ethic of environmental stewardship, while identifying a need for “cooperative planning, community engagement, strategic thinking and natural resource management”; and

WHEREAS, the Park Department is currently creating a comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board has determined that the Park Board would be well served by the creation and establishment of a subcommittee to advise it on matters concerning the perpetuation of a healthy ecological system within the City of South Bend.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of South Bend, Indiana, as follows:

1. That, pursuant to the authority granted under I.C. 36-10-3-17, the Park Board hereby establishes the Ecological Advocacy Committee to serve as a subcommittee to the Board of Park Commissioners of the City of South Bend.
2. That the purpose of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall be to help enhance and maintain the ecological health of the environment within the City of South Bend, thereby enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of the City of South Bend.
3. That Ecological Advocacy Committee shall be and hereby is charged with the responsibility for advising the Park Board with respect to issues involving or impacting the perpetuation of a healthy ecological system within the parks system in the City of South Bend, including, but not limited to, advising the Park Board on the following matters:
 - A. Identification of significant natural resources with the parks system and the completion of an overarching resource management plan for the parks system.

- B. Impacts that park development has on the natural environment.
 - C. Educational programs.
 - D. Improvement of plant diversity, population and health within the City of South Bend.
 - E. Such other related matters as the Park Board deems appropriate.
4. That the membership of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall consist of citizens interested in parks and recreation, in general, and in the preservation and perpetuation of natural resources.
 5. That the membership of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall be appointed by the Park Board and shall be no fewer than 5 members and no more than 10 members, the exact number at any point in time to be a matter solely within the discretion of the Park Board.
 6. That members of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall serve for a term of one (1) calendar year; provided, however, that the initial membership shall serve until December 31, 2017. The Park Board retains the discretion to reappoint any member of the Ecological Advocacy Committee to any number of one (1) year terms.
 7. That the initial membership of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall be determined no later than October 1, 2016.
 8. That the Ecological Advocacy Committee, at its first meeting of each calendar year, shall appoint one (1) of its members as the Chairperson of the Ecological Advocacy Committee, who shall serve in said position until replaced by the Ecological Advocacy Committee at the end of the term or for cause. The Ecological Advocacy Committee may (re) appoint a Chairperson to any number of one (1) year term.
 9. That any member appointed to complete the term of a member who leaves the Ecological Advocacy Committee prior to the expiration of his term shall serve the remainder of that member's term plus the next calendar year.
 10. That the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall meet no fewer than six (6) times per year and shall conduct its meetings in public, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5.
 11. That the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall report to the Park Board, periodically, on the status of its work and shall report and make such formal presentations, written or otherwise, to the Park Board on matters of interest at the request of the Park Board and provide updates to the PARC Committee of the Common Council.

12. That a quorum of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall consist of a majority of its current membership.

13. That a matter before the Ecological Advocacy Committee for consideration shall pass upon the affirmative vote of a majority of members present and voting.

14. That unless renewed by subsequent resolution of the Park Board, the existence of the Ecological Advocacy Committee shall cease as an advisory committee to the Park Board on December 31, 2021.

This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF SOUTH BEND**

ATTEST

Eva Ennis, Park Board Secretary