



Minutes City of Tempe Sustainability Commission November 16, 2015

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission held on Monday, November 16, 2015, 4:30 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, 31 E. 5th Street, Garden Level, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

John F. Kane (Chair)
Kendon Jung (Vice Chair)
Jessica Hauer (phone)
Carol Hu
Mary Ann Miller

Alix Monty
Aaron Redman
Arnim Wiek
Corey Hawkey

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Gretchen Reinhardt
Colin Tetreault

City Staff Present:

Don Bessler, Public Works Director
Carla Sidi, Public Works Executive Assistant
David Nakagawara, Development Services Director

Marilyn DeRosa, Public Works Deputies
Director Water Utilities

Guests Present:

Jake Savonei, ASU student
Cara Nassar, ASU student
Cody Tubey, ASU student

Sheina Hughes, Stantec Consulting
Maria Brady, Stantec Consulting

Chair John Kane called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance

Chair John Kane introduced Jake Savonei, ASU student. Jake and his team are doing a preliminary study in urban resiliency. They are studying Tempe's systems. Chair Kane said he would like the commission to see the results when they become available.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Kane introduced the minutes of the October 19, 2015 meeting and asked for a motion. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Mary Ann Miller

Second: Commissioner Aaron Redman

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3 – Strategic Sustainability Goal - Review Compact of Mayors Program.

Don explained the context of the Compact of Mayors Program and the potential impact of the program to the Commission and to the city as an organization. For reference, Don explained some of the different goals the city has adopted like the Renewable Energy goal adopted by City Council. He gave an overview and explained the four fundamental levels of the Compact of Mayors Program.

Commissioner Redman said the program is very much in line with the next step the Commission needs to take and talked about an inventory assessment.

Discussion about how the program is aligned with the vision of the Commission and how it can be aligned with the city budget.

Commissioners discussed how the city can adopt the program and work collaboratively with the Commission. This program could help create a baseline, an inventory and engage the community at the individual, business and organization level.

Commissioner Miller talked about the distinctions between municipal and community sustainable impacts. She suggested using language in the letter with a statement encouraging voluntary instead of mandatory participation.

Suggestions for language in the letter should be sent to Carla and Chair Kane.

A motion was made to approve the Sustainability Commission Chair Kane to send a letter to the City Council on the Commission's behalf recommending City of Tempe to sign on to this program.

Motion: Commissioner Alix Monty

Second: Commissioner Aaron Redman

Decision: Approved.

Agenda Item 4 – Sustainability Initiatives

Don presented an overview of the City Sustainability Initiatives Program.

Commissioner Kendon Jung asked if there are opportunities for collaboration for other existing boards. Don confirmed that these types of collaborations are welcome and asked all boards' collaborations should go through the appropriate staff liaison.

Discussion about the different Public Works Sustainability Programs and their progress.

Agenda Item 5 – Sustainability Features- Water Utilities

Marilyn DeRosa, Deputy Public Works - Water Utilities, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the city's water conservation programs. She gave a brief summary of the initiatives, effectiveness, and how it gets measured. Discussion about customer behavior.

Marilyn explained the implementation of water usage audit program and its efficiency. The estimated average savings can be 60,000 gallons per year per customer and the target is at least 200 customers per year. She mentioned how the program was enhanced in the last year by bringing on three ASU Student Interns.

Commissioner Corey Hawkey mentioned that ASU would like to partner on this area.

Discussion continued amongst the Commissioners about the different programs and their impacts.

Agenda 6 – Greywater Initiatives

David Nakagawara, Development Services Director, provided the Commission an outline of the city's emerging greywater program.

Discussion about different uses of greywater. David suggested that the Sustainability Commission could consider working toward a strategy to help incentivize and promote the greywater program. Commission will look into best practices on how to deploy greywater at the neighborhood level.

Agenda 7 – Commission Retreat

Deferred to next meeting

Agenda Item 8- Housekeeping Items

Carla talked about agenda materials and calendar. Commissioners should send Carla all events and she will compile them into the calendar that will be sent out twice a month.

To promote a paperless meeting just agenda and minutes will be printed for the meetings. Carla is working with IT to create a SharePoint place for the Commission to share materials. All the materials part of the agenda will be sent out electronically. If a Commissioner would like a copy of a presentation given at a meeting, Carla will send it electronically.

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

Chair Kane talked about future presentations. There will be two presentations per meeting to educate the Commission about city programs. The presentations will be divided into four categories:

Water - Water Conservation and others

Land - Waste Management, Parks, Household Hazardous Waste Material and Forestry

Air - Transportation, Transit

Energy - Solar projects

A motion was made to move the Monday, December 21st meeting to Monday, December 14 due to the holidays.

Motion: Commissioner Alix Monty

Second: Commissioner Aaron Redman

Decision: Approved.

The following future agenda items have been identified by the Commission or staff:

- Retreat and Land presentation (December)
- ASU Sustainability Organization Structure

Commissioner Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Jung seconded.

The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Prepared by: Carla Sidi

Reviewed by: Don Bessler