



---

## Minutes City of Tempe Sustainability Commission May 16, 2016

---

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission held on Monday, May 16, 2016, 4:30 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, 31 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Garden Level, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

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

Aaron Redman  
Corey Hawkey  
Gretchen Reinhardt

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Colin Tetreault  
Annim Wiek  
Alix Monty  
Carol Hu

**City Staff Present:**

Don Bessler, Public Works Director  
Carla Sidi, Public Works Executive Assistant  
Tony Miano, Deputies Public Works – Field Operations  
Craig Hayton, Parks Manager

Chair John Kane called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance**

None

**Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Kane introduced the minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting and asked for a motion.

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Commissioner Miller

**Second:** Commissioner Redman

**Decision:** Approved

**Agenda Item 3 – Recap Previous Presentations**

Commission discussed Commission Protocol from the March 21 meeting. Carla introduced two forms for future agenda and work requests that will be part of the protocol process.

Work Item Form – This form should be filled out by the public or Commissioners when requesting a presentation for the Sustainability Commission. The intention of this form is to enable the Commission to better assist the requestor and help the Commission manage their future agenda. Based on the agenda, some requests may not be accommodated in the same month.

Agenda Item Request Form – This form should be utilized by the Commissioners when requesting an item to be placed on the agenda.

Commissioners made some suggestions and Carla will update the forms to be posted on the Sustainability website

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**

Craig Hayton, Parks Manager, and Tony Miano, Deputy Public Works – Field Operations, presented an overview about the city's IPM program. Craig distributed Tempe's Green Organic for Compost Program brochure and explained how the program is funded. Parks oversees the IPM program and Solid Waste funds compost process. Integrated Pest Management, IPM, is a philosophy and decision making process that utilizes a holistic approach to managing pests

Considerations: Health/Safety, Environmental, Financial, & Social

- Approaches: Cultural, mechanical, biological, & chemical options
- Creating nutrient rich soil is the key to establishing healthy parks turfgrass. The partnership with the Solid Waste composting program is essential to this approach. Compost produces 3,000 tons currently
- Craig gave an update on the Organic Herbicide Pilot Parameters
- Future Best Practice
  - ✓ Goal for organic – 10,000 tons by 2020 or 30,000 yards compost
  - ✓ Future goal for chemical approach - reduce chemical and replace with compost
  - ✓ Budget Metrics using less chemicals

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Review City Inventory Assessment**

Don gave an update on the Inventory Assessment and explained that we are still missing some information. The Annual Sustainability Report will be presented to City Council in August. Carla will send the Inventory Assessment draft to the Commission. Any questions and suggestions regarding the initiatives should be sent to Carla.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Leadership in Community Resilience**

Don explained that the Sustainable Cities Institute at the National League of Cities (NLC) launched a new pilot program on Leadership in Community Resilience, and selected 10 cities to participate in an initial cohort. Don was interviewed by the Program Manager and the City of Tempe was one of 10 cities selected by the NLC to join this program. The city was awarded a \$10,000 grant by the National League of Cities with the purpose to institutionalize resilience and sustainability in the organization. NLC would like to develop and advance the emerging city-level models for pursuing resilience objectives and to apply those models.

Don gave some examples, and asked the Commission for some suggestions on how to use this grant. Discussion about different options to host an event or activity which will help to elevate the organization's understanding, appreciation, and commitment to resilience and sustainability at the leadership and operational level. Don asked the Commission to email some suggestions.

Don and John Kane, Commission Chair, will send a memo to City Council explaining how the grant will be allocated.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Sustainability Coordinator**

Don explained the overall idea about this position that was advanced by Councilmember Lauren Kuby. On March 29, 2016, the Mayor and City Council approved the request to create a City Manager's Working Group exploring the

feasibility of establishing the position of Sustainability Coordinator in the City of Tempe. The proposed Sustainability Program Management Services would bridge the gap between the City's need for sustainable solutions, and ASU's capacity to research and support real-world sustainability projects. Such a position comes with an expected Return on Investment (ROI) as grants are secured and awarded, and as savings (i.e., energy and water) is achieved. This is a two-year pilot program position that ASU will help to co-fund, which will be housed at the City of Tempe.

Commissioners discussed how this position would interact and work collaboratively with the Sustainability Commission.

A motion was made to approve the Sustainability Commission Chair, John Kane, to send a letter to the City Council offering assistance in the hiring process.

**Motion:** Commissioner Hawkey

**Second:** Commissioner Jung

**Decision:** Approved

**Agenda Item 8 – Housekeeping items**

Commissioners attendance

**Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda items**

Leadership in Community Resilience workshop

City Inventory Assessment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Prepared by: Carla Sidi

Reviewed by: Don Bessler