

# Minutes

## City of Tempe Sustainability Commission

### June 20, 2016

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission held on Monday, June 20, 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  
Colin Tetreault

Aaron Redman – by phone  
Corey Hawkey  
Gretchen Reinhardt  
Alix Monty  
Carol Hu

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Arnim Wiek

**City Staff Present:**

Don Bessler, Public Works Director  
Carla Sidi, Public Works Executive Assistant

**Guests Present:**

Donna LaGuardia, Wilson St. Comm. Garden

Chair John Kane called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance**

None

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

Chair Kane introduced the minutes of the May 16, 2016 meeting and asked for a motion.

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Commissioner Tetrault

**Second:** Commissioner Miller

**Decision:** Approved

Commissioner Monty abstained

**Agenda Item 3 – Recap Previous Presentations**

None

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#### **Agenda Item 4 – Review City Inventory Assessment**

Staff distributed the city inventory draft assessment to the Commission. Don highlighted some areas, and mentioned the city is making progress in integrating a more holistic view of sustainability into our practices. Departments are in a process of identifying their roles to advance their strategies, and to work toward achieving measurable outcomes. The City Inventory Assessment will be part of the Sustainability Progress Report scheduled to be presented to City Council on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

- Discussion on how this information was solicited from departments, best practices and silos.
- Discussion about difference between metrics and performance indicators, how to drive the city horizontally across the vertical obstacles.
  - Don explained how the assessment is aligned with the City Manager's Strategic Planning Initiative. The City Manager recently created the Office of Strategic Management under Rosa Inchausti, and one of its goals is to help departments make connection between their strategic initiatives goals with the City Council's Strategic Vision, and creating metrics to measure accountability, and outcomes to measure success are critical.
- Discussion about other Tempe Commissions' efforts and how they may overlap with the Sustainability Commission to create partnerships.
- Commission would like to have other City of Tempe departments making presentations on their initiatives.
- Public Works will be providing a quarterly report card to City Council and in addition a scorecard with the organization adopted goals related to their sustainable initiatives.
- The quarterly report out to City Council will be timed with the Sustainability Commission meetings to give opportunity for input.

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Pledge for a Sustainable Community**

Commissioner Miller presented the *Pledge for a Sustainable Community*, a platform the Tempe Chamber recently joined. The Pledge for a Sustainable Community is a resource developed to help both startup and established businesses to share their sustainability journey, a place where they can publicly pledge their actions, join a community of other Pledge takers, be inspired by the success of others, and be recognized for their role in helping to build resilience in their business and community.

The Pledge is divided into five categories: energy, water, purchasing, travel, and waste that will help organizations get started on their sustainability journey. Program participants have access to lots of valuable resources, tips and case studies to help them create a more sustainable workplace. Businesses will be encouraged to report their progress, which will be shared in the Tempe Chamber's website.

The program aligns with:

- City Council Strategic Priorities
- City Manager's Strategic Planning Initiatives
- Tenets of the Compact of Mayors on Sustainability
- Charter of the Sustainability Commission

Commissioner Miller asked if the Commission would endorse the Tempe Chamber's Pledge for a Sustainable Community.

A motion was made to approve the Sustainability Commission Chair, John Kane, to send a letter to the City Council endorsing the Tempe Chamber's request to implement the "Pledge for a Sustainable Community" and seek City Council support for program.

**Motion:** Commissioner Monty  
**Second:** Commissioner Reinhardt  
**Decision:** Approved

Commissioner Miller abstained from voting

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Carbon Resolution**

Commissioner Reinhardt presented the Citizens' Climate Lobby for a carbon pricing, created for the City of Phoenix by the local chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL). This program envisions the support of cities for a Federal price on carbon that can help the U.S. lead the world into a healthier, decarbonized energy economy, while creating jobs and increasing GDP.

Discussion about having a community dialog series and maybe bring a speaker about carbon pricing.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Sustainability Award**

Commissioner Hu explained how every year during the City's State of the Neighborhood Awards & Workshop, residents are recognized for improvements they make that improve the quality of their neighborhood. The Neighborhood Advisory Committee has expressed interest in broadening their categories. Commissioner Hu suggested this can be an opportunity to have a sustainability award category, and also to incorporate topics into the program the Commission would like to talk to the community about.

The Sustainability Commission could have its own award or work together to share a category with the Neighborhood Advisory Committee.

Followup: Commissioner Hu will bring the rubric for the next meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Sustainability Award**

At the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Work Study Session meeting, after a presentation by Chair Kane, City Council approved the Mayor to sign the Compact of Mayors letter of intent. Carla will submit the letter this week.

Don talked about the Sustainability Seminar kick off on resilience, speakers and date range.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Housekeeping items**

Carla will send commissioners their on individual attendance and attendance requirements  
Commissioners will email Carla their July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting attendance

#### **Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda items**

- List of City Commissions to identify efforts and how they can overlap with the Sustainability Commission
- Review City Inventory Assessment with City Council's Priorities
- Carbon resolution – Community dialog – September meeting

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Prepared by: Carla Sidi  
Reviewed by: Don Bessler