



## Minutes City of Tempe Water Sustainability Commission Subcommittee September 5, 2017

Minutes of the Tempe Water Subcommittee meeting held on Wednesday, September 5, 2017, 4:00 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, 31 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Garden Level, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Alix Monty  
Gretchen Reinhardt  
Kendon Jung

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

**City Staff Present:**

Marilyn DeRosa, Deputy PW Director Engineering  
Braden Kay, Sustainability Manager

**Guests Present:**

Chair Monty called the meeting to order at 4:02

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance**

There were no residents or members of the public present

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

Sustainability Commissioner Monti introduced the minutes of the May 9 and June 13 meetings and asked for a motion.

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Commissioner Reinhardt

**Second:** Commissioner Monty

**Decision:** Approved

**Agenda Item 3 – Guiding Principals**

Reviewed guiding principles and agreed to add points and review at the next meeting in order to present at the Council Retreat

**Agenda Item 4 – Recommendation to Council Regarding Water Rate Plan**

What can we measure?

How can the city use new measurement and portal technologies to support efficient use?

Evaluation of water use profiles per customer class (i.e. Single Family Residential, Multifamily, Landscape and Industrial)

Need to create visions and goals for each user class (i.e. What does a sustainability multifamily landscape look like?)

Need roadmaps with associated programs to help transition users to sustainable use

Subcommittee wishes to support findings of new rate study and new rates, but encourages Council to dedicate resources and staff time to the following:

#### 1. Water utilization:

How does Tempe optimize its water use for the most impact against extreme heat and the urban heat island effect?

We needed an integrated approach to urban cooling

Subcommittee supports continued study of how Tempe best uses water to balance the following benefits:

- Cooling
- Shade
- Aesthetics/Beautification
- Carbon sequestration
- Food production

The findings of this research need to be incorporated into:

- Outreach
- Ordinance changes
- Next rate study with associated price signals
- Pilot projects (i.e. carbon sinks, food forests, bioswales)
- Involving landscape architects

#### 2. Strategic Management

Subcommittee supports Council in asking staff for the creation of a strategic management plan for water conservation. This needs to include:

- Clear conservation targets for all customer classes
- Changes to building codes and street standards
- Development of roadmaps for each customer class
- Attention paid to high users

### 3. Innovation

Subcommittee recommends that Council dedicates resources towards supporting innovation and emerging technologies. This includes:

- Full use of AMI and customer portal technologies as they are rolled out
- Participating in an evaluation of appropriate emerging technologies for each customer class
- Promoting technologies through pilot projects and then rebates
- Ensuring codes allow and support emerging technologies

#### **Agenda Item 5 – Rainwater Harvesting**

Agreed to discuss at the next meeting with a conversation about how best to move forward.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items**

Meet again Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> 5-6:30 (try to keep to 90 minutes)

Prepared by: Braden Kay

Reviewed by: