

**Sustainability Commission  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**



**MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, June 25, 2013, Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Klein called the meeting to order at **5:02** p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE:** The flag salute was done by Commissioner Vic Yepello

**ROLL CALL:** A quorum was present for this Regular Meeting of the City of Palm Springs Sustainability Commission. Three new Commissioners took their oaths after the meeting agenda was posted. Commissioners Paul McCreesh, Joe Jackson and Vice Chair Schaefer were absent. The Commission welcomed new Commissioners Victor Yepello, Brielle McNeel and Mark Polischak. In addition a new Commissioner, Travis Armstrong will join us at the July Meeting.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** The agenda was amended by Sustainability Manager Mician to include the new Commissioners as those listed in attendance. Commissioner Castle motioned to pass the agenda and Commissioner Bettinger seconded the motion to pass the agenda. Commissioner Harris has not renewed his turn. Vice Chair Schafer has resigned due to personal reasons. Commissioner Castle agreed to serve as temporary Vice Chair for the month of July. There will be no meeting in August.

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2011/2012 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2011/2012 Unexcused Absences</u>
Brett Klein, Chair	x	23		
Thom Bettinger	x	12		
Kate Castle	x	15	2	
Michael Harris	E	17	6	
Paul J. McCreesh	E	16	1	
Joe Jackson	E	5	1	
Grant Wilson	x	5		
Staci Schafer, Vice-Chair	E	18	4	
Brielle McNeel		1		
Mark Polischak		1		
Victor Yepello		1		

X = Present

L = Late

E = Excused (notified Chair and Staff of absence)

U = did not notify of absence

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** Michele Mician MS, Manager, Office of Sustainability  
Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator

**A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (5 MINUTES)**

Each new Commissioner was introduced and each gave information regarding their background and reason for interest in the Sustainability Commission. Term limits were discussed (please see below). There are two reappointments and four new appointments. The new roster was distributed as well.

**Sustainability Commission**  
(City Council Subcommittee Councilmember Hutcheson and Councilmember Lewin)

*Reappoint Thom Bettinger and Grant Wilson for the terms ending June 30, 2016; Appoint Brielle McNeal and Mark Polischak for the terms ending June 30, 2014, and Appoint Travis Armstrong and Victor Yepello to the Sustainability Commission for the terms ending June 30, 2016.*

**B. PRESENTATIONS (20 MINUTES)**

1. **City of Palm Springs Healthy Planet Healthy You Update, Michele Mician, Sustainability Manager-** A short video regarding the race was shown. The upcoming race event was discussed. The date has been set for January 11, 2014. Prices will go up to \$30 for the 5 kilometer and a new 10 mile race will be replacing the 7 mile race. That event will be \$40. The race packet includes Sustainability themed educational materials, reusable bags, reusable water bottle. The race also features a focus on community education and all day expo.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5 MINUTES)**

1. The Regular Meeting minutes were moved for approval to the July meeting. During the July meeting the May and June meeting minutes will need to be approved.

**D. REPORTS FROM STAFF LIAISONS (15 MINUTES)**

1. **Bike Rack Purchase & Artist Bike Rack RFP**, - the new bike racks are in. It was asked that one of the bike racks be displayed. It was also asked that it be photographed and added to the website. In addition, it was reported by Chair Klein that the deadline for the Artist RFP was extended to July 10, 2013. Many applications have been received. Five bike racks were ordered and five hitches were ordered. NOTE: Later the Public Arts Coordinator noted that the bike racks are too heavy to transport without the use of a forklift. Therefore displaying them at the meetings would be difficult.

2. **Addition of Shredding Event and Calendar Review**, Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator- Recycling Coordinator Gary noted that a new event will be added to the shredding and e waste calendar. The new calendar of events will be distributed at the next meeting. In addition, he reported on the new sharps container drop off at 425 Civic Drive that is free to the public. In addition he will be handling reporting to the state on our recycling progress.

3. **Sustainability Manager Report**, Michele Mician –

i. **Electric Vehicle Charging Locations Update** was distributed. The list is attached to these meeting minutes. (see attachment A). There will be 22 new added stations. These are fitted with a key pad to be ready to serve as a revenue source. The first 10

we had received a grant for did not have this key pad fitted. The new stations will have the ability to charge a fee when the City is ready to add this as a revenue source. There will be 32 total stations in the City. All of the locations were approved by facilities. The exact locations are finalized once the wiring is located. Some other locations are not city owned and are in partnership with the Desert AIDS project and at the Camelot Theater. The total in funding received for the 32 stations is in received grant funds per station is about \$5,000.00 with install. The total amount of in-kind funding received is estimated to be about \$150,000 for all of the stations. We also do our internal electrical for the pre-wiring. The key pads add an additional \$400 in value and grant funded product. The new J1772 stations are all fitted with signage designating that it is a charging station and a two hour time limitation that allows for only electric vehicles. Our streets department has already placed the signage. Parking enforcement will see to it that these are enforced. The station charging will be free for at least one year. There is a two hour parking enforcement that has been put in place through a City Council approved ordinance.

- ii. Green Region and Compass Blueprint Grant Applications – the compass blueprint applications for the Tree Inventory and Sustainability Plan with Health initiatives chapter. The applications are attached (Attachment B)
- iii. July 17, 2013 City Council Meeting Items - Green for Life Climate and Energy Action Plan Adoption has been postponed due to the need to do a CEQA preparation. In addition, the June 17<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting has been cancelled.

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

**(10 MINUTES)**

- 1. 2012-13 Annual Report Planning, Chair Klein-Mician printed out our Sustainability report for 2010-2011. Please look at format we have and if you have any questions please submit them to Mician. The annual report will be ready for the September meeting and will need to be approved to submit to City Council for the September 18<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

**F. OLD BUSINESS**

**(60 MINUTES)**

- 1. Plastic Bag Next Steps, Commissioner Castle- Commissioner Castle thanked Thom and Michael for working with her on this project. She mentioned that a presentation was made to Mizell Senior Center. In addition, she mentioned that the State Senate Bill 405 was not passed. The new Plastic Bag PSA was also shown. 1. The PSA was well received and had a \$10,000 in kind value in contributions to the Sustainability Commission.
- 2. Non-Motorized Transportation Committee, Chair Klein - Chair Klein thanked Commissioners for their help at Village Fest. Booth supplies are needed including lighting, banners and marketing materials. The sub-committee has asked staff to contract with Ms. Economides on a Bike Friendly business district plan. Chair Klein requested a scope of work from Michele to be submitted to the next meeting for the commission to discuss. In addition, he mentioned the support of the Measure J Commission to allow for \$1.1 million in funding for NMTP projects to be submitted to City Council. This included bike lanes, facilities and bridge improvements. There was also over a million recommended funding for the Tahquitz Creek Master Plan. The next Measure J application may be in December. City Council will receive and file this at their next meeting and approved funds in the fall. We have a reprint copy of the old bike map and the new bike map is not ready yet but should be ready in the next six weeks.

It was noted that many trails have been cleared up lately. Code Enforcement has done a great effort in cleaning these up.

#### **G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chair Klein asked that an equestrian or Smoke Tree Stables and Las Campadres be invited to our next meeting. Subcommittee chairs were listed and need to be reviewed. It was noted that a water subcommittee chair is needed and the committee needs to be activated.

#### **Chair List for Committees**

Waste-	Chair Castle
NMTP-	Chair Klein
Wellness-	Chair Jackson
Water-	Open position

It was also asked that the Commission review the sustainability retreat guidelines and outcomes. Commissioner Bettinger thanked Commissioners Harris and Schafer for their service. It was also asked that Chevron give an update in September or August if there is a special meeting held. Mr. Yepello asked that we look to require solar on new construction. The new building Manager will be approached. He also mentioned working on a zero waste plan. Gary Calhoun responded as did Manager Mician. This is a priority for our city.

Gary Calhoun suggested a trip to the waste transfer station. He will work on scheduling this for the Commission. It was suggested that other facility rips be taken. One is scheduled for the Desert Cities Energy Partnership but has limited seating.

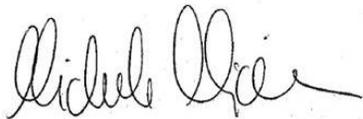
Chari Klein mentioned that the Vista Chino and Ramon bridge review will take place tomorrow at 6 pm in the Large Conference Room.

Commissioners were reminded to follow Brown Act guidelines.

#### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:01 pm. The first motion was by Commissioner Bettinger and a second from Commissioner Wilson. The meeting was closed. They will adjourn to the amended date for the Regular Meeting which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 in the City Hall Council Chambers at City Hall. The Sustainability Commission's normal meeting schedule is at 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month except August unless otherwise noted or amended.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michele Mician, Manager  
Office of Sustainability