

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



MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2013, Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Klein called the meeting to order at **5:00** p.m.

FLAG SALUTE: The flag salute was done by Commissioner Armstrong.

ROLL CALL: A quorum was present for this Regular Meeting of the City of Palm Springs Sustainability Commission.

AGENDA APPROVAL: The agenda was presented by Sustainability Manager Mician. Commissioner _____ motioned and Commissioner Castle seconded the motion to pass the agenda.

	<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	25		
Thom Bettinger	X	14		
Kate Castle	X	15	2	
Paul J. McCreesh	X	18	1	
Joe Jackson	X	7	1	
Grant Wilson	X	8		
Brielle McNeel	X	3		
Mark Polischak	X	3		
Victor Yepello	X	3		
Travis Armstrong	X	2		

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
David Ready, City Manager
Deborah Logan, Clerical Asst, Office of Sustainability
Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENTS: This time has been set aside for members of the public to address the Sustainability Commission on Agenda items and items of general interest within the subject matter within jurisdiction of the City. Although the Sustainability Commission values your comments, pursuant to the Brown Act, it generally cannot take any action on items not listed on the posted Agenda. Three (3) minutes are assigned for each speaker.

Jennifer Liebertz, teacher at Cielo Vista Charter School: Urban Chicken Keeping - Mrs. Liebertz introduced herself and presented information about the school's chicken keeping project. The project was researched and developed by her 6th grade class and included determining best types of coops, methods of feeding/watering and which chickens are suited to live in the desert climate all while working within a PTG budget. Liebertz stated all of the kids are enthusiastic about the project and they have learned about animal husbandry and gleaned the rewards of the

project. Mician reported a draft ordinance has been sent to Planning Department to allow urban chicken keeping.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (5 MINUTES)

Deborah Logan was introduced as the new department clerical assistant. Chair Klein welcomed David Ready, City Manager and welcomed back commissioners and staff. Commissioner Clifford Reed from Parks and Recreation was introduced and was in attendance to assist with the Bike program.

B. CITY MANAGERS REPORT

David Ready, City Manager – Bike Lane Project/Non-Motorized Transportation Plan: Mr. Ready presented information to commission that he would like to suggest to Council a major policy change with every street having a bike lane versus limiting to sectioned areas in the city. Streets assessment is first, and then bids for job maximizing the use of measure J monies. This would be coordinated through the NMTP subcommittee working with parks and recreation and planning. General discussion regarding coordination between departments connecting the right people, education and color style elements for bike lanes.

C. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 (10 MINUTES)

Nomination of Brett Klein as Chair by Commissioner Castle and second by Commissioner Bettinger. Nomination of Commissioner Castle as Vice Chair first motion Commissioner Bettinger and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. No other nominations were presented. Slate is Brett Klein as Commission Chair, Kate Castle as Commission Vice Chair. **Role call vote was unanimous in favor of slate as presented.**

D. PRESENTATIONS (45 MINUTES)

1. **Kim F. Floyd, Sierra Club** - Hand outs & a presentation was given regarding the benefits of solar panels. A survey is being conducted county wide to determine best practices and possible ways to streamline residential solar installation permitting process. Findings to be available in 1 month. Staff reported solar incentives are under consideration. Chairman Klein suggested subcommittee take the lead on this.

2. **Nicole Criste, Green for Life Program Request** – Voluntary green building program to exceed by 15% or more. This program makes improvements to homes and improves energy efficiency with focus on remodel homes as they are the most who could benefit although this program is applicable to new construction also. Promotion and public education is important for the community awareness. Energy audit assists in providing information about areas of improvement. Rebates, incentives, and gift cards are part of the program while coordinating efforts with Building Dept so that they know details of the green program. Mician stated details can be determined once commission decision has been made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5 MINUTES)

1. July 16, 2013, Regular Meeting- Commissioner Wilson motioned to accepted July meeting minutes and seconded by Commissioner Bettinger. The July Meeting Minutes Passed.

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER REPORT (10 MINUTES)

1. **EV Charging Stations** - Ms Mician provided an update on the EV stations: we now have 10 locations. Municipal code limits charge time to 2 hours which is adequate for recharge. There are several charging station websites and listings of our locations have been added. Key pads are future consideration at sites to charge fee for parking, however, currently there is no fee to recharge.

2. **2014 Mayor's Healthy Planet, Healthy You Race** – The Mayor's race will be held on January 11, 2014. All race materials are available for distribution and on our website at www.yoursustainablecity.com or register at www.active.com,

3. **Funding of unallocated Projects from Account #138-1270-42691**

Report by Michele Mician: this fund is available but does needs approval from city council. Balance is \$400,000 and will go toward programs as approved.

G. NEW BUSINESS

(5 MINUTES)

1. Schedule Coachella Coca-Cola LEED Plant Tour and Fontana Material Recovery Facility Tour

Mician reported invite from American Beverage Association to tour manufacturing plant. Tours are half day to full day, open to date/time of year, etc. She will review calendar for open dates in Nov – Jan timeframe with MRF as priority.

2. Education and Outreach Committee Formation, Commissioner McNeel
 - i. Curriculum Development on three top initiatives. Discussion of possibly creating core handouts/materials as opposed to the top initiatives; will be up to committee to decide optimal approach.
 - ii. Speakers Bureau would use the handouts/materials consistently for cohesive message of commission positions.
3. Green For Life Project Funding

RECOMMENDATION: A MOTION PROPOSING THAT CITY COUNCIL FUND INITIATIVES AS SET FORTH THROUGH THE CVAG ADOPTED GREEN FOR LIFE GREEN BUILDING INCENTIVE PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 FROM SUSTAINABILITY FUND ACCOUNT # 138-1270-42691.

MOTION by Chairman Klein, role call vote was unanimous in favor to fund CVAG Green for Life Green Building Incentive Program in the amount of \$50,000 from # 138-1270-42691 account as presented.

E. OLD BUSINESS

(35 MINUTES)

1. January – April 2014 Sustainability Film Series Ideas, Commissioner Bettinger presented information about other documentaries. It was recommended that committee chairs present a suggested film/documentary that relates to the respective committee at the October meeting.
2. Sustainability Commission Subcommittees, Chair Klein called on commissioners to give verbal report on subcommittees which they are currently serving. New draft of subcommittee list will be created by staff.
3. Wellness Subcommittee, Commissioner Jackson presented update of participation at Mizell Senior Living Expo event and Women's Show program where Mayor's Race brochures will be distributed and cross promoting memory check day.
4. Waste Reduction Subcommittee, Commissioner Castle provided update regarding several presentations to CVAG and other groups about plastic bag recycling.
5. Water Subcommittee, Commissioner Yepello reported full subcommittee is not formed. Chair Klein revisited artificial turf issue as possibly including in lawn buy back. Mician reported it was originally declined as it does not contribute to biodiversity or habitat. Further review by subcommittee will be assessed.
6. Non-Motorized Transportation Subcommittee, Chair Klein reported
 - i. Measure J Funding Update – consideration of city wide bike program per Mr. Ready's presentation: education, outreach, bike racks, lane painting, etc.
 - ii. Bike Rack Installations & Artist Rack Selections – seven locations in

downtown and uptown are in progress will be in place by September 25th ribbon cutting thereafter. City staff is working with artists on contract details.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

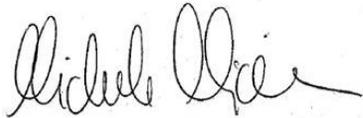
(10 MINUTES)

Solar subcommittee will be agenized for October. Institute for Local Government Beacon Program recognized City of Palm Springs for efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions save energy and adopt policies and promote sustainability: also recognize Michele Mician for her work. Mician furthered that there were two awards granted to the city: climate registry award event and Beacon award will be this weekend. Energy Summit booth and volunteers are scheduled, Keynote speaker Daryl Hannah. Mayor Pougnet is presenting at the Energy Summit. First NMTP booth at Village Fest corner of Tahquitz Canyon Way and Palm Canyon Drive.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:16 pm. The first motion was by Commissioner Jackson and a second from Commissioner Castle. They will adjourn to the Regular Meeting which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 in the Large Conference Room 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele Mician", written in a cursive style.

Michele Mician, Manager
Office of Sustainability