

Sustainability Commission

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 17, 2015
Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at **5:03** p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Vice Chair Wilson

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. A motion to approve by Vice Chair Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Otto and unanimously carried.

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2015/2016 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2015/2016 Unexcused Absences</u>
Thom Bettinger	X	39		
Joe Jackson	X	30		
Grant Wilson	X	32	1	
Mark Polischak	X	26	1	
Victor Yepello	E	25	1	
Travis Armstrong	X	26	1	
Tara Lazar	X	15		
Nate Otto	X	14		
David Freedman	X	5		
Nancy Ferguson	X	4		

X = Present

E = Excused (notified Chair and Staff of absence)

L = Late

U = did not notify of absence

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Michele Mician MS, Manager, Office of Sustainability
Dan DeGarmo, Clerical Assistant

CITY MANAGER AND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER REPORT - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - None

B. MEETING MINUTES

1. October 20, 2015 Meeting Minutes were presented by Sustainability Manager Mician. Motion to approve as amended by Commissioner Freedman and seconded by Commissioner Otto. Unanimously carried. Abstained: Vice Chair Wilson.

C. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

Commissioner Armstrong reported that there will be a community meeting regarding turf removal at the Dog Park. Date to be determined.

Commissioner Armstrong reported on concerns regarding the use of the new Downtown Park.

Manager Mician inquired on status of Recycle Bins in Downtown area.

Manager Mician asked if Bike racks could be installed at trail markers

Manager Mician inquired if Parks and Rec would be responsible for replacing damaged signage on trails

Commissioner Armstrong reported that Parks and Rec Commission looking in to having high school kids help out in repairing trail signage and Skate Park signage.

D. RECYCLING REPORT, Gary Calhoun - absent, no report

E. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGERS REPORT, Michele Mician

1. Overview of Sustainability Master Plan and Public Workshop on December 5, 2015 at 2 PM at Welwood Murray Library
Manager Mician reported on the Sustainability Master Plan Workshop and agenda and referenced Squats for Tots coming up on December 5, 2015.
Deadline for comments for Master Plan due to Michele by December 1, 2015.
All Department Heads have been invited to the Open House Workshop on December 5, 2015
2. Walk and Roll App review
Manager Mician previewed the new Walk and Roll app showing the features of the app and explained the leader boards.
Google will be integrated into the app for locations.
Safety tips are also included.
Beta version on-line now. Final version to be revealed December 5, 2015
Possibly work with local businesses for discounts/specials for those who use app.
3. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Update
Manager Mician provided an update on Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations.
Two Charging locations have some damage due to chargers being removed from vehicles improperly
4. Legacy Tree Program
Manager Mician updated the Commissioners on the Legacy Tree Program.

Commissioner questions and comments on the above were presented and discussed.

F. PRESENTATIONS

1. Product Stewardship in California Power Point, Michele Mician, Sustainability Manager
The Product Stewardship Council and the Producer Responsibility Resolution were presented by Manager Mician. Purpose of Council is to shift responsibility of waste disposal from government responsibility to manufacturer having responsibility for disposal of their product and/or packaging.
Arrow Awards were mentioned to provide incentive to manufacturers.
 - Commissioners made comments and questions regarding the motion which were discussed.
2. CV HIP Power Point, Alejandro Espinoza, Director for Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention Program, Desert Healthcare District
Alejandro Espinoza presented a Power Point presentation on the new internet resource for health care information in the Coachella Valley.
Commissioner questions and comments were presented and discussed.

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. Leaf Blower Survey Results from ONE-PS, Commissioner Bettinger
Commissioner Bettinger reported on the ONE-PS meeting and the survey they presented on leaf blowers. He also stated that a proposal by ONE-PS to ban leaf blowers was presented but not voted on.
Commissioner Freedman commented on leaf blower proposal also.
Commissioner Bettinger and Chair Jackson added additional comments on the process that ONE-PS should follow to present their proposal to the Sustainability Commission.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee for Adaptive Reuse of Parks

Chair Jackson proposed that an Ad Hoc committee be appointed
Commissioner Freedman motioned and Commissioner Bettinger seconded a motion to appoint Commissioners Armstrong and Ferguson to an Ad Hoc committee for Adaptive Reuse of Parks. Motion passed unanimously.

2. CPUC Resolution Proposal, Commissioner Freedman

Commissioner Freedman reported on the upcoming CPUC meeting regarding Net Metering rate changes.

Commissioner Freedman motioned that a resolution be sent to the City Council to prepare and send a letter to CPUC against the changes. Seconded by Commissioner Bettinger.

Manager Mician stated that the December 2, 2015 City Council Agenda is complete and the resolution would not go on that meeting.

Commissioner Armstrong commented on procedural issues and wording on proposal.

Manager Mician reported on procedural issues as to timing to present to Council.

Commissioners made comments and questions regarding the motion.

Manager Mician stated that a letter from the Sustainability Commission would be another option considering timeliness of action needed. The CPUC meeting will be held by December 31, 2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Freedman to amend and have Staff prepare a letter from the Sustainability Commission. Acceptable by Commissioner Bettinger, second.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that he has questions on content of proposal and timing.

Amended motion passed with Commissioners Armstrong and Ferguson voting Nay,

Commissioner Lazar asked if letter could be approved by Commissioners before it is sent.

Manager Mician stated that motion would have to be amended to be sent without approval.

Commissioners and Manager commented on adding the letter to the December 5, 2015 Special Commission meeting. Agenda would have to be changed.

Chair Jackson requested staff communicate with the City Manager's Office in regards to the Sustainability Commission sending the letter to CPUC.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that he had concerns regarding lack of discussion of the Commission and what is included in the proposal. He also had concerns on the disregard for procedure and the process of adding a special meeting requiring Commissioners to meet.

Manager Mician stated that a Special meeting has already been called and that the Agenda can be amended to include additional items.

Commissioner Ferguson stated that she also has not had enough time to make an opinion on the proposal at this time.

Manager Mician reported on additional procedural items that could be addressed.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that he has concerns that the Commission voted on the proposal without proper discussion on the proposal.

Commissioner Ferguson requested that if the proposal is added to the December 5, 2015 Agenda that the Commissioners review all material on the proposal ahead of time to limit the discussion time at the Special Meeting.

Chair Jackson requested that any comments on the content of the proposal be emailed to Manager Mician as soon as possible in order to limit discussion time at the Special Meeting.

I. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS - (COMMITTEES REPORTED IN REVERSE ORDER)

1. Water Conservation Subcommittee, Commissioners Armstrong and Freedman

Commissioner Freedman reported on the National Wildlife Foundation's Wildlife Friendly landscapes. Commissioner Freedman also reported on the DWA meeting.

2. Outreach Subcommittee, Commissioner Lazar – No Report

3. Green Building/Solar Subcommittee, Vice Chair Wilson, Commissioners Otto and Freedman

Commissioner Otto reported on the City's solar installations.

4. Waste Reduction Subcommittee, Commissioner Polischak – No Report

5. Wellness Subcommittee, Chair Jackson

Chair Jackson reported on a new application on a community garden project.

6. Active Transportation Subcommittee, Commissioner Yepello

Commissioner Ferguson reported on bike lane status and action items and that communication is being made with the Measure J Commission and ONE-PS to confirm that items are not being done twice.

Commissioner questions and comments on all of the above were presented and discussed

J. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Lazar stated that her feeling is that the basis of the Commission should focus on information and solutions and not on enforcement. She is volunteering her time to work with Pharmacies to get more informative solutions. Commissioners Polischak and Otto also volunteered.

Commissioner Armstrong asked if the December 5, 2015 meeting will be videotaped to record the vote on the letter to the CPUC. Manager Mician stated that the meeting will not be taped. She will contact City Manager for further input.

Commissioner Ferguson stated that there would still be time to discuss the CPUC letter at the December 15, 2015 Commission meeting since the CPUC meeting will not be until the end of December.

Chair Jackson stated that his wish would be to postpone the vote on the letter until the December 15, 2015 meeting.

Commissioner Ferguson also commented on Desert Highlands group to be put off. Would like to see that they are asked for input and make a presentation to the Commission.

K. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:21 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Lazar and Second by Commissioner Otto. They adjourned to the Special Meeting which will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 5, 2015 in the Welwood-Murray Library, 100 S Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs CA 92262. 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.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND

It is the intention of the City of Palm Springs to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (760) 323-8204 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Please advise us at that time if you will need accommodations to attend or participate in meetings on a regular basis. If additional information is needed, please contact the Office of Sustainability at (760)323-8214.

Pursuant to G.C. Section 54957.5(b) (2) the designated office for inspection of records in connection with the meeting is Office of Sustainability, City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way. Complete Agenda Packets are available for public inspection at: City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92264. If you would like additional information on any item appearing on this agenda, please contact Office of Sustainability at 760-323-8248.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING: I, Michele C. Mician, Sustainability Manager of the City of Palm Springs, California, certify this Agenda was posted at or before 6:00 p.m. on November 10, 2015, as required by established policies and procedures.



, Michele C. Mician, Sustainability Manager