



## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 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 Commissioner Gauthier

**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 Chair Jackson. A motion to approve as presented by Commissioner Gauthier and seconded by Commissioner Kibby and unanimously carried.

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2016/2017 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2016/2017 Unexcused Absences</u>
Joe Jackson	X	46		
Grant Wilson	X	47		
Roy Clark	X	10		
David Freedman	X	21		
Jennifer Futterman	X	11		
Greg Gauthier	X	3		
John Goins	E	2	1	
Lauri Kibby	X	3		
Robert McCann	X	11	2	
Nate Otto	X	25	5	
Michael Wangler	X	3		

X = Present

E = Excused (notified Chair and Staff of absence)

L = Late

U = did not notify of absence

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** Dan DeGarmo, Clerical Assistant; Staci Schafer, Director of Maintenance and Facilities; Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator, David Ready, City Manager and Marcus Fuller, Assistant City Manager.

**CITY MANAGER AND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER REPORT** –City Manager Ready reported on the status of the Sustainability budget. He stated that the Sustainability Department be put under the Community and Economic Development Department utilizing \$10,000.00 from the Sustainability Fund and \$10,000.00 from the Recycling Fund be used towards the Director of Community and Economic Development salary. He requested that a Budget item be agendized for the next meeting. The position of Funding/Grant Writer is currently being recruited and once hired, this person would be invited to the Sustainability Commission meetings.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

City Manager Ready also requested an update on the Zagster presentation and Chair Wilson stated that after the presentation, no further contact has occurred.

### COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

Planning Commission – Lisa Middleton, liaison, reported on the progress of the Solar Mandate in the Planning Commission. The proposal will go through the Planning Commission on Apr 26, 2017 and to the City Council on May17, 2017. She also stated that the Planning Commission has an Ad Hoc Committee to review and update the Planned Development District.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Travis Armstrong, liaison –.No Report.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

**A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** - None

**B. PRESENTATIONS** – Nancy Ferguson and Vic Yepello reported on the Bicycle Friendly Application and biking events done around the city. A city employee will be responsible for completing the application with assistance from the Engineering Department. Vic Yepello requested that the Active Transportation subcommittee be reinstated. A plan for Bike Month should be developed. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

**C. MEETING MINUTES** March 21, 2017 meeting minutes approval: Motion by Commissioner Clark to approve as amended, second by Commissioner Gauthier and unanimously approved.

**D. RECYCLING REPORT**, Gary Calhoun reported that the April 22, 2017 Shredding event will also include a PSDS heavy item recycling event. He also reported on mattress recycling and Katherine Finchy recycling. Chair Jackson requested information on the recycling tonnage. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Leaf Blowers, to continue work with Council. Chair Jackson appointed Commissioner Clark and himself as members of the Ad Hoc Committee with Commissioner Futterman as an alternate.

Commissioner Clark reported on his progress on the different type of blowers available and battery issues.

2. Appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Pedestrian Planning. Chair Jackson appointed Vice Chair Wilson, and Commissioners Kibby and Gauthier to the Ad Hoc committee.

3. Review of Current Sites for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, with possible additions. Chair Jackson reported that Councilmember Kors has asked that the Commission discuss possible additions to EV charging stations. Commissioner Otto reported that more education is needed for Business owners regarding the EV stations.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

Director Schafer stated that the downtown electrical infrastructure is in process of being upgraded and no new EV Charging Stations can be installed until the infrastructure is complete; about 1½ years. She also stated that if new charging stations are requested in the new downtown redevelopment areas then a letter of recommendation needs to go to Council as soon as possible. An item will be placed on the next Commission agenda.

4. MOTION: To approve the expenditure of \$350 to be a sponsor for the Palm Springs Public Library's 2016 Summer Reading Program (Memo from Julie Warren), second by Commissioner Kibby. Discussion ensued and the vote on the motion passed unanimously.

5. Report of meeting with Planning Director Flinn Fagg. Discussion Item: To discuss the Sustainability Commission providing \$45,000.00 from the 2107-18 budget to support a pedestrian/walkability plan for the City of Palm Springs.

Vice Chair Wilson provided information on pedestrian issues/walkability plan and the request from Planning for the Sustainability Commission to send a letter of recommendation to the City Council to address a budget item of \$45,000.00 to the 2017-18 Planning Department budget.

Director Schafer stated that the appropriate funding requests would be from the Sustainability Commission funds or Measure J funds. Planning Department funding would be a discussion between the Planning Director and Senior staff. Vice Chair Wilson expressed that this could be an opportunity to utilize General Funds for something related to the General Fund.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed. Commissioner Clark made a suggestion that the Commission invite Christine Hammond to come and speak on the issue

**F. OLD BUSINESS** – None

**G. COMMITTEE AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

1. Standing Committee on Green Building, Commissioners Freedman and Otto

Commissioner Freedman discussed Zero Net Energy and the possibility of hosting a seminar to educate

the public on ZNE. He also suggested having someone from CVAG speak at a future meeting.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed. A general "Thumbs Up" was given by the Commissioners as to move forward with plans for a seminar.

2. Standing Committee on Solar Mandate, Commissioners Freedman and Middleton. Commissioner Freedman reported that the Cost Effectiveness Study has been completed and should be posted no later than next week.

3. Ad Hoc Committee on Waste Reduction, Commissioners McCann and Clark

Commissioner McCann reported on the multi-family condo complexes that were not in compliance and his efforts at contacting them. Some of the complexes were responsive to him and to PSDS. Commissioner Clark reported on the availability of household battery recycle locations in Palm Springs.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

4. Ad Hoc Committee on the Sustainable Film Series, Commissioners Clark and Futterman

Vice Chair Wilson reported that the film disc was unable to play and that the film was not shown.

5. Ad Hoc Committee on World Environment Day, Commissioners Futterman, Kibby and Wangler

Commissioner Futterman reported on the progress of the World Environment Day with input from Diana Shay, Redevelopment Coordinator.

6. Ad Hoc Committee on Bicycle Route Maps, Commissioners Goins, Kibby and Wangler.

Commissioner Wangler reported on efforts the committee has come up with on how to improve the map by defining the three classes of paths/lanes/routes and the way the map is produced (size, folding, paper, etc.). Also to include the Bicycle Friendly City designation and how it meets the requirements on the map.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

7. Active Transportation/Pedestrian Planning, Vice Chair Wilson

Vice Chair Wilson stated there were no further comments.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

8. Wellness, Commissioner Futterman – No report

9. Water, Commissioner Freedman

Commissioner Freedman reported that Governor Brown lifted the drought emergency, keeping some of the water restrictions in place. DWA lifted much of it's restrictions as well, asking for voluntary restrictions.

He also reported that DWA is offering a sprinkler nozzle replacement program. Conservation numbers for March are 23.6% and a cumulative of 21%.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

10. Outreach, Commissioner Futterman – Commissioner Futterman reported that to date a list of 30 exhibitors are scheduled for the World Environment Day event. Any information on possible exhibitors is welcome.

## H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Director Schafer commented that the next three meetings will be held at the Convention Center due to renovations of the Large Conference Room.

Commissioner Gauthier commented that funds are available from the Coachella Valley Mountain Conservancy (CVMC) on projects that would improve habitat sustainability.

Chair Jackson asked about the Dunn Road project. Daniel DeGarmo stated that the first part of the project has been completed but is not sure where the project stands to date. He will look into it and report back.

Chair Jackson commented on Staffing changes and concerns that projects do not get lost.

Vice-Chair Wilson requested help on the Bicycle Friendly Application

- I. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:30 PM by a motion from Commissioner Otto and seconded by Commissioner Kibby. Unanimously approved. They adjourned to the Regular Meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 in the Primrose C Conference Room at the Palm Springs Convention Center. The Sustainability Commission's regular meeting schedule is at 5 p.m. the third Tuesday each month except August unless otherwise noted or amended.

Respectfully Submitted,

Staci A. Schafer, Director of Maintenance and Facilities, For the Office of Sustainability