

Sustainability Commission

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES

Tuesday, December 16, 2014, 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 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 the agenda was initiated by Vice Chair Jackson and Chair Klein seconded the motion, with the amendment. All Approved.

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2014/2015 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2014/2015 Unexcused Absences</u>
Brett Klein, Chair	X	40		
Thom Bettinger	X	29		
Joe Jackson	X	20		
Grant Wilson	X	23		
Mark Polischak	X	18		
Victor Yepello	E	15	2	
Travis Armstrong	X	17		
Michael Birnberg	X	6		
Orlando Gotay	X	6		
Tara Lazar	L	6		
Nate Otto	X	6		

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
Arwel Bermudo, Clerical Assistant
Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- City Manager Ready introduced Marcus Fuller, Assistant City Manager/Engineering, to the Commission. City Manager Ready advised the Commission Assistant City Manager Fuller will be the immediate contact for Measure J Projects.
- Assistant City Manager Fuller requested to be invited to the next NMTP Subcommittee meeting.

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.

- Resident Monty Tutatti introduced himself as a member of the Wilderness Society. He advised his organization strives to balance human needs while protecting a sustainable desert. The City has an opportunity to brand its self as an outdoor sustainable desert community by supporting the California Desert Conservation and Reservation Act.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (5 MINUTES)

- No introductions.

B. MEETING MINUTES (5 MINUTES)

The minutes were presented by the Sustainability Manager Mician. A motion to approve the minutes was initiated by Commissioner Gotay and Commissioner Polischak seconded the motion, with the amendments. All approved.

C. PRESENTATIONS (75 MINUTES)

1. Bicycle Friendly Community Award
Paul Harris and Jim Rothblatt, Friends of CV Link
 - Mr. Harris and Mr. Rothblatt presented to the City of Palm Springs an award, specifically for the efforts Sustainability Commission for the supporting non-motorized transportation programs and safety outreach to the community.
 - Mr. Harris and Mr. Rothblatt presented the award designed by Delawrence King, student from Palm Springs High School.
2. National Bicycle Tourism Conference
Chair Klein and Randy Gardner, Bureau of Tourism
 - Chair Klein presented to the Commission a summary of the National Bicycle Tourism Conference held in San Diego. Chair Klein stated by providing a strong bicycle infrastructure, the City of Palm Springs benefits by higher tourism visits. There is a growing trend in which a bike friendly city draws more tourism.
 - Mr. Gardner reported the Bureau of Tourism is in a better position to attract more tourist and convention events with the City having a strong bicycle infrastructure. There has been a decline in golf related tourism but an increase of bike related tourism. The City can only benefit by providing more bike lanes, bike parking and a possible bike sharing program.
3. Friends of the Desert Mountain
John Purcell
 - Mr. Purcell presented to the Commission the goals of the Friends of the Desert Mountain. He stated they are largest conservation organization in the Coachella Valley and promote education programs to emphasize the importance of conservation.
 - Mr. Purcell thanked the Commission for their previous monetary support and look forward for future support from the City of Palm Springs.
4. "B-Cycle" Bike Sharing Presentation
Lee Jones, TREK <https://www.bcycle.com/>

- Ms. Jones presented to the Commission the services and products B-Cycle can provide to create a bicycle sharing infrastructure. She reported forty other cities are using their services and products for their bicycling sharing programs. The sizes of the cities range from small to large, and ownership of the hardware range from city owned and operated to privately owned and operated.
- Ms. Jones advised the fee structure are set by the owner of the individual bike share program. B-Cycle includes automated rental stations and bicycles manufactured by TREK.
- Chair Klein advised the Commission there are other entities that provide similar services and products offered by B-Cycle. B-Cycle was the first to offer a presentation to the Commission.

D. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER’S REPORT

(10 MINUTES)

1. Healthy Planet, Healthy You Program Update

I. Squats for Tots

- Manager Mician reported the event was well attended. The event raised \$780.00 for Desert AIDS Project and collected over \$2000.00 worth of toys for the Barbara Sinatra Children Foundation.

II. Mayor’s Race on January 17, 2015

- Manager Mician reported the planning for the Mayor’s race is in progress. She anticipated to have more than 1000 race participant and over 2000 attendees to the Wellness Festival.
- Manager Mician reported there will be Triple Crown awards for race participants who run the Santa Paws, Red Carpet Run and the Mayor’s Race.

III. Clinton Day of Action on January 25, 2015

- Manager Mician reported the event will held at the James O’Jesse Community Center. There will be new bike racks and bike corrals installed at the location. Bicycles will be given away to children from the Boys and Girls Club and a new community orchard will be planted.

E. RECYCLING REPORT

(5 MINUTES)

1. Coordinator Calhoun reported there has been two Shredding and Recycling event since his last report, one in October the other in December. The next recycling event will be on February 28th, and will include tire recycling.

F. OLD BUSINESS

(5 MINUTES)

Chicken Study Session Recap, Vice Chair Jackson

RECOMMENDATION: Subcommittee recommends that there be no continued review, study sessions, or changes to city code regarding chicken keeping and chicken keeping is not to be permitted in the City of Palm Springs.

- Vice Chair Jackson reported the Subcommittee, Commissioner Bettinger and Commissioner Polischak, came to the same conclusion of not allowing urban chicken keeping in the City of Palm Springs.
- Vice Chair Jackson reported the Subcommittee’s concerns were abandonment, attractive nuisance and limited city resource.

G. NEW BUSINESS

(5 MINUTES)

H. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

(10 MINUTES)

1. Waste Reduction Subcommittee, Commissioner Polischak
 - Commissioner Bettinger recommended to staff and Commission to focus effort again with the Bag Ordinance. He reported locals are getting use to bringing reuseable bags when they go shopping but more outreach needs to be made with visitors. Reaching out to hotels to advise their guest would be ideal.
 - Commissioner Polichak reported he will work with the Education Subcommittee for educational outreach with the Bag Ordinance.
2. Education Subcommittee, Commissioner Birnberg and Lazar
 - Commissioner Birnberg had no report but they are working on how the Subcommittee will serve the Commission.
3. Green Building/Solar Subcommittee, Commissioner Otto
 - Commissioner Otto had no report.
4. Water Conservation Subcommittee, Commissioner Gotay
 - Commissioner Gotay reported he will have a subcommittee meeting in January and will do some public outreach regarding Water Ordinance.
5. Wellness Subcommittee, Vice Chair Jackson
 - Vice Chair Jackson had no additional report other than what was discussed in Old Business.
6. Non-Motorized Transportation Subcommittee, Chair Klein
 - Chair Klein had no other report. Chair Klein and Manager Mician commented they would like to see bike sharing be more a regional program throughout the Valley than just be a city level. The City of Palm Springs can certainly take the lead with promoting bike sharing.

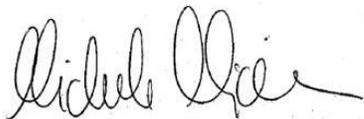
I. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

(5 MINUTES)

- Commissioner Armstrong asked what will the Water Subcommittee's role going forward. Manager Mician commented the Subcommittee will remain in place longer than the Water Task Force Outreach Subcommittee. The Water Subcommittee should start taking a more active role.

J. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:02 P.M. The first motion was by Vice Chair Jackson and a seconded by Commissioner Lazar. They will adjourn to the Regular Meeting which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 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,



Michele Mician, Manager

Office of Sustainability