

Sustainability Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES

Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 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 Manager Mician.

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 Commissioner Wilson and Vice Chair Jackson seconded the motion. 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	41		
Thom Bettinger	X	30		
Joe Jackson	X	21		
Grant Wilson	X	24		
Mark Polischak	X	19		
Victor Yepello	X	16	2	
Travis Armstrong	X	18		
Michael Birnberg	X	7		
Orlando Gotay	X	7		
Tara Lazar	X	7		
Nate Otto	X	7		

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:

- No Report

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.

- Joy Brown Meredith, representing the Downtown Merchant Association, expressed their concern and request for assistance regarding the Bag Ordinance. Their organization would like the City to provide reusable bags which they can purchase directly from the City.
- Jennifer Futterman, California Regional Environmental Education Community, would like the support of the Sustainability Commission to promote and grow Earth Day and World Environment Day events which their organizations produce. Their efforts have been successful but with the Commission's assistance, they can increase their attendance.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (5 MINUTES)

- No Welcomes and Introductions

B. MEETING MINUTES (5 MINUTES)

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

C. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LAISON REPORT - Cheryl Houk

- Commissioner Houck reported their Commission will be identifying the locations where to place the new Recycling Bins, which the Office of Sustainability provided.
- Commissioner Houck reported they are in the process of opening a second Dog Park and have received approval to install Pickle Ball Courts at Demuth Park.
- She also reported the Skate Park will be having a free event the coming Saturday.

D. PRESENTATIONS (45 MINUTES)

1. Bike Lane Projects Update - Marcus Fuller, Assistant City Manager
 - Assistant City Manager Fuller reported Phase I of the Measure J Bike Program is out for bid and anticipate to have a contractor by March.
 - Assistant City Manager Fuller reported part of Phase I will need further review due to concerns with road diets.
2. Mayor's Healthy Planet, Healthy You Race - Jeff Hocker, Event Coordinator
 - Mr. Hocker provided the Commission the statistics for the Mayor's Race and Wellness Festival, with approximately 835 Registered Runners, 85 vendors and 2500 attendees to the Wellness Festival.
 - Mr. Hocker reported the event had great media coverage and runners and attendees were very pleased.
3. Green for Life and CAP/EAP Council Workshop – Benjamin Druyon, CVAG
 - Mr. Druyon reported the five year program ended on December 2014. They will however continue working with the Desert Sun to educate and promote energy savings and building "green".
 - Mr. Druyon reported the Energy Summit at the Palm Springs Convention Center was well attended. The PACE Program is still ongoing through YGreene.
4. Desert Cities Energy Partnership, Southern California Edison – Maya Aubrey, Account Manager and Nena McCullough, Regional Manager for Public Affairs
 - Ms. Aubrey reported the City of Palm Springs has attained Gold Status which will increase the incentives the City can receive for future projects based on kilowatt hour

savings.

E. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER'S REPORT (15 MINUTES)

1. Sustainability Master Plan Meeting, January 28, 2015 at 3:30
 - Manager Mician reported key stakeholders have been invited to the initial meeting to update the Master Plan. After the initial meeting, a second meeting will be held with City Department heads.
2. Grant Updates on Water and Southern California Association of Governments Programs
 - Manager Mician reported the Department has applied for five different grants to the State for water efficiency programs.
 - Manager Mician reported the SCAG Grant for Tree Inventory Project will be presented to the Commission during next month's meeting. She also stated Southern California Edison will be donating trees to the City to be planted at the parks and along streets.
3. Healthy Planet, Healthy You program Update
 - Clinton Day of Action on January 25, 2015 - Manager Mician asked the Commission on who will be volunteering during the event. The event will include twenty fruit trees being planted at a new orchard and a bicycle ride.
 - Cycledelic April 30, 2015 - Manager Mician provided the date of the next Cycledelic Bike Event.

F. RECYCLING REPORT (5 MINUTES)

1. Coordinator Calhoun reported the next Shredding Event will be on February 28, 2015.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS (10 MINUTES)

1. Education Subcommittee, Commissioner Birnberg and Lazar
 - Commissioner Birnberg reported the subcommittee is still working on branding.
2. Green Building/Solar Subcommittee, Commissioner Wilson
 - Commissioner Wilson reported the bulk of the subcommittee's report will be discussed during New Business. They are continuing working on zoning code changes and solar permit streamlining.
3. Waste Reduction Subcommittee, Commissioner Polischak
 - Commissioner Polischak reported the subcommittee is working on excess food waste and has been in contact with Find Food Bank.
4. Water Conservation Subcommittee, Commissioner Gotay
 - Commissioner Gotay reported the subcommittee is working on ways to best deliver the message of water conservation.
5. Wellness Subcommittee, Vice Chair Jackson
 - Vice Chair Jackson reported the subcommittee will be presenting to the Commission a walking initiative in next month's meeting.
6. Non-Motorized Transportation Subcommittee, Chair Klein
 - Commissioner Yepello reported a number of cyclists have formed the Coachella Valley Bike Coalition to promote bike safety and driver awareness. The subcommittee will have a booth at the Tour de Palm Springs.

H. OLD BUSINESS (5 MINUTES)

1. Friends of the Desert Mountain Wildflower Festival, March 7, 2015 - Manager Mician
 - Manager Mician reported to the Commission due to limited funds, the Sustainability Department cannot sponsor the Wildflower Festival.
2. Single Use Plastic Bag Ban and Local Impacts - Commissioner Bettinger

- Commissioner Bettinger requested Staff and Commission to provide extra support for small businesses with the second phase of the Bag Ordinance.
3. Leaf Blower Policy Update - Commissioner Otto
- Commissioner Otto reported the subcommittee reviewed the reported written by the past subcommittee. He stated the present subcommittee may have found some solutions which were faced in the past.

I. NEW BUSINESS

(5 MINUTES)

1. Review of Proposed Solar Collector Regulations Zoning Text Amendments - Commissioner Wilson and Director Fagg
- Commissioner Wilson provided the Commission a written subcommittee report and copies of two versions of proposed revisions to the Solar Collectors Regulation. These revisions are intended to codify policies to clarify and streamline the permitting process.
 - Commissioner Wilson and Director Fagg explained to the Commission the difference of Tier I and II users.

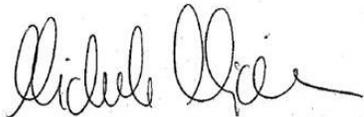
J. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

(5 MINUTES)

- No Comments

K. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:21 P.M. The first motion was by Vice Chair Jackson and a seconded by Commissioner Otto. They will adjourn to the Regular Meeting which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 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