

Sustainability Commission

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES

Tuesday, March 17, 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 Commissioner Polischak.

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 Commissioner Lazar 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 | 43 | | |
| Thom Bettinger | X | 32 | | |
| Joe Jackson | X | 23 | | |
| Grant Wilson | X | 26 | | |
| Mark Polischak | X | 21 | | |
| Victor Yepello | X | 18 | 2 | |
| Travis Armstrong | X | 20 | | |
| Michael Birnberg | X | 9 | | |
| Orlando Gotay | E | 8 | 1 | |
| Tara Lazar | X | 9 | | |
| Nate Otto | X | 8 | 1 | |

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
Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator
Arwel Bermudo, Clerical Assistant

CITY MANAGER AND ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER REPORTS

- 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.

- Julie Warren, Palm Springs Library and Public Services Manager, thanked the Commission for their support of the Library's Film Series.
- Manager Warren advised the 2nd Family Fun event will be held on March 25th and the Department of Sustainability will be participating.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (5 MINUTES)

- No Welcomes and Introductions

B. MEETING MINUTES (5 MINUTES)

1. The minutes from January 20, 2015 were presented by the Sustainability Manager Mician. A motion to approve the minutes, with amendments, was initiated by Commissioner Wilson and Commissioner Otto seconded the motion. All approved.
2. The minutes from February 17, 2015 were presented by the Sustainability Manager Mician. A motion to approve the minutes, with amendments, was initiated by Commissioner Polischak and Commissioner Bettinger seconded the motion. All approved.

C. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LAISON REPORT - Cheryl Houck and Travis Armstrong

- Commissioner Houck reported Dog Waste Station will be installed in the next several months in the Parks. They have a contractor who will install four Pickle Ball Courts at Demuth Park.
- Commissioner Houck reported they are in the process of choosing the site for the next Dog Park.
- Manager Mician inquired if the Parks and Recreation Commission have placement for the Recycling Units that were purchased by the Sustainability Commission. Commissioner Houck stated their Commission will need to place it on the Agenda.

D. RECYCLING REPORT (10 MINUTES)

1. Used Tire Event Update
 - Coordinator Calhoun reported the Shredding and E Waste Event, including Tire Recycling Event, was well participated.
 - Coordinator Calhoun reported both Shredding Trucks were filled.
2. Shredding and E Waste Event Schedule – Upcoming April 18, 2015
 - Coordinator Calhoun reported the next Shredding and E Waste Event will be held on April 18, 2015, which will be increased to three shredding trucks.
 - Coordinator Calhoun reported he and Manager Mician met with Andrew Smith, Calrecycle, in regards to AB 341 and the reporting process, and AB26 regarding organics collection.
 - Coordinator Calhoun reported he is continuing outreach with small retailers regarding the Bag Ordinance. He expressed his concern regarding pharmacies which sell sharp containers but will not accept them once the containers are full.

E. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER'S REPORT (60 MINUTES)

1. 2015-16 Budget Overview
 - Manager Mician provided an overview of Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget.
 - Manager Mician requested from each Subcommittee an estimate amount they would like budgeted for programs they would like to accomplish during Fiscal Year 2015-

2016. She advised funds are limited.
- After much discussion, the Subcommittees provided Manager Mician their goals and estimate cost to accomplish those goals.
1. Sustainability Master Plan Status
 - Manager Mician reported Raimi and Associates will be conducting online surveys to collect community input and ideas on health and sustainability topics during PSNIC Picnic on March 28, 2015.
 2. Waste Management and Snapple Grant Application
 - Manager Mician submitted two new grants to Waste Management and Snapple.
 - Manager Mician reported The Snapple Grant for recycling containers.
 3. SCAG Sustainability Awards Application
 - Manager Mician applied for Active Transportation Grant.
 4. Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant Program Potential Project
 - Manager Mician was asked to apply for this grant to cover the cost to clean medicinal dumping.
 5. Discussion on 2015 California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act
 - Manager Mician just wanted Commission that they will have to vote to support the resolution. Whether or not the Commission is in favor, it will be voted on by the City Council.
 6. Local Food Production: Orchard Project on Arbor Day April 14 at 4 PM at the Boys and Girls Club
 - Manager Mician reported 2015 Arbor Day will be celebrated at the Boys and Girls Club by having a new orchard planted at the facility. Eight new fruit trees will be planted.

F. OLD BUSINESS

(5 MINUTES)

1. Sustainability Film Series Update, Commissioner Bettinger
 - Commissioner Bettinger provided the Commission potential films for the Sustainability Film Series that will run from October 2015 through May 2016.
 - Commissioner would like to find better ways marketing the film series to increase the attendance.

G. NEW BUSINESS

(10 MINUTES)

1. Sustainability Rebranding as Part of Master Plan Update, Commissioner Lazar
 - Commissioner Lazar provided proposed logos for each Subcommittee. She requested feedback from the Commission, as the logos are not finalized.
2. Support for Regional Environmental Education Community World Environment Day
RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE SUPPORT OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY EVENT WITH DONATION OF 100 REUSABLE BAGS AND UP TO \$250.00 IN MONETARY SUPPORT

A motion to vote was initiated by Chair Klein.
 Commissioner Bettinger seconded the motion.
 All approved.

H. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

(20 MINUTES)

1. Water Conservation Subcommittee, Commissioner Gotay
 - Manager Mician reported the State passed stronger water conservation regulations. The State is making the Water Agencies implement these new regulations.

- Commissioner Armstrong recommended more members may be necessary in the Subcommittee, especially in light of the new regulations.
2. Education Subcommittee, Commissioner Birnberg and Lazar
 - Commissioner Birnberg reported he has been speaking with a local artist who can help provide outreach through his artwork which expresses the concern over the drought.
 - Commissioner Birnberg reported he has been speaking with Climate Ride, an organization that fund raises for sustainable effort. Manager Mician expressed her concern whether or not the City or the Commission can solicit for funds.
 3. Green Building/Solar Subcommittee, Commissioner Wilson and Otto
 - Commissioner Otto had no report. Commissioner Wilson did note the Solar Resolution passed by the Sustainability Commission has not been presented to the Planning Commission.
 4. Waste Reduction Subcommittee, Commissioner Polischak
 - Commissioner Polischak has been in contact with Waste No Food to arrange a presentation with the hospitality association in Palm Springs. FIND Food Bank would also like to get more exposure from the restaurants and hotels on what they do.
 5. Wellness Subcommittee, Vice Chair Jackson
 - Vice Chair Jackson provided a packet for the subcommittee's waking initiative. The subcommittee would like to focus on the 55+ age groups.
 - Vice Chair would also like to promote the walking aspect of the Mayor's Race and Wellness Festival. He also provided an informal walking survey which he conducted himself
 6. Non-Motorized Transportation Subcommittee, Chair Klein and Commissioner Yepello
 - Chair Klein reported The City Council had approved the cost and drawing for Year One NMTP Projects.

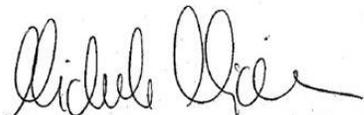
I. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

(5 MINUTES)

- Manager Mician commented the Commission was just won a \$56 thousand grant for Zero Emission Vehicles.
- Chair Klein asked for a consensus from each individual Commissioner in regards to his request for written Subcommittee Reports, which are to be submitted to staff prior to each Sustainability Meeting.
- The consensus from each individual Commissioner was positive. Each provided the reason why it was useful tool to document and organize their programs. Commissioner Gotay was not present for the Meeting.
- The Commission to place Mandatory Written Subcommittee Reports on the the Next Month's Meeting under New Business.

J. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:37 P.M. Commissioner Birnberg motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Polischak seconded. All approved. They will adjourn to the Regular Meeting which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 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