

Sustainability Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES

Tuesday, October 21, 2014, Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Klein called the meeting to order at **5:03** 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 Commissioner Polischak and Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. All Approved.

- Amendment was presented by Chair Klein, advising the Commission that Commissioner Yepello is no longer the Chair of the Water Conservation Subcommittee.

| | <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 | 38 | | |
| Thom Bettinger | X | 27 | | |
| Joe Jackson | X | 18 | | |
| Grant Wilson | X | 21 | | |
| Mark Polischak | X | 16 | | |
| Victor Yepello | X | 14 | 1 | |
| Travis Armstrong | X | 15 | | |
| Michael Birnberg | X | 4 | | |
| Orlando Gotay | X | 4 | | |
| Tara Lazar | X | 4 | | |
| Nate Otto | X | 4 | | |

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- City Manager Ready was not present and no report to be presented.

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 Darrel Ponisen urged the Commission to study the adverse effect of Leaf Blowers. He advised numerous Cities in California that have banned the use of leaf blowers due to the pollution it creates and the dust created.
- Mr. Stephen Moore, grant consultant, reported to the Commission he is currently working with Quality Inn, in Palm Springs, installing solar power. Mr. Moore stated he works with hotels to apply and qualify for grants to install solar panels in order to remove their need from the “grid”.
- Mr. Jeff Hocker provided an update with the Cycledelic event held on October 16th. He reported the event was a success. The event promoted biking, safety and theft prevention. Mr. Hocker will provide a more detailed update during the November 2014 Meeting in regards to the 2015 Mayor’s Race and Wellness Festival.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (5 MINUTES)

- No introductions.

B. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LIAISON REPORT (5 MINUTES)

- Commissioner Houck reported the Parks and Recreation Commission is in full support of the City’s Water Conservation effort. The Parks and Recreation have lessened their use of water at City Parks and monitoring the appropriate time to reseed.
- Commissioner Houck reported their Commission is looking forward to the new recycling bins that will be placed at the City Parks, which the Sustainability Commission funded.

C. SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER’S REPORT (15 MINUTES)

1. SCAG Grant Updates
 - I. Manager Mician reported ArborPro has begun inventorying City owned Trees, which is funded through a grant from Southern California Association of Governments. ArborPro is half way complete.
 - II. Manager Mician reported the Sustainability Master Plan with Sustainable Health and Wellness App. and Website update will begin soon, as the vendor has been chosen but the contract has not been signed. The chosen vendor will initial work with Manager Mician and by the beginning of 2015 will work with the individual Subcommittees.
2. Bicycle Parking Update
 - Manager Mician reported the City will be installing additional Bike Racks, Bike Corrals and Bike Repair Stations. The second Bike Corral installation was completed today and two more are planned to be installed.
3. Water Task Force
 - Manager Mician reported with the assistance of Brighthaus Marketing will be initiating a Water Conservation Hotel Campaign. Commissioner Birnbergend Commission Lazar will assist Brighthaus with the branding and outreach.
4. Wayfinding Signage Study

- Manager Mician advised the Commission she would like to implement a wayfinding signage study throughout the City. She advised the Commission they will be voting later on the Meeting if they would like to implement the study.
5. Mayor's Race and Clinton Day of Action
 - I. Urban Orchards Program – Manager Mician advised the Commission they will be sponsoring the Clinton Day of Action, which will be held on January 24, 2014. The community surrounding the James O. Jesse is requesting a community garden adjacent to the Community Center and Bike Sharrows. The Commission will fund bike corrals, bike racks and community urban orchard.

D. RECYCLING REPORT (5 MINUTES)

1. AB 1826 Update, Mandatory Organic Recycling
 - Manager Mician provided the Commission a copy of AB 1826, which will affect businesses that produce 8 cubic yard of organic waste.

E. OLD BUSINESS (30 MINUTES)

1. Consider Re-establishing the Leaf Blower Study Subcommittee
 - Chair Klein opened the discussion of re-establishing the Leaf Blower Study. There was a thorough study previously conducted two years ago but did not result on a ordinance.
 - Commissioners agreed this would be a worth while study and Commissioner Otto and Chair Klein will be working with Manager Mician.
2. Urban Chicken Keeping Study Session, November 12th, 5:30 PM, City Hall Large Conference Room
 - Vice Chair Jackson reminded the Commission of the date for the public session. Vice Chair Jackson stated only 5 other Commissioner can participate in the discussion. Other members of Commission may attend but only as citizen.

F. NEW BUSINESS (30 MINUTES)

1. Direct staff to conduct a Request for Proposal for Wayfinding Study
Commission Gotay motioned to vote.
Commissioner Otto seconded the motion.
All approved.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE WORKING SESSION AND REPORTING (10 MINUTES)

1. Water Conservation Subcommittee,
 - Commissioner Armstrong nominated Commissioner Gotay to be new Chair of the Subcommittee. Commissioner Gotay accepted the Chair for the Subcommittee.
2. Non-Motorized Transportation Subcommittee, Chair Klein
 - Chair Klein reported he will be attending a Cycling and Tourism Conference on November 5th through the 7th in San Diego. A representative from Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism.
3. Wellness Subcommittee, Vice Chair Jackson
 - Vice Chair Jackson reported the Subcommittee did not meet the past month. He reminded the Commission of the Urban Chicken Keeping Study Session.

4. Waste Reduction Subcommittee, Commissioner Polischak
 - Commissioner Polischak reported he attended a meeting with MintsScrap on September 25th with Manager Mician, Director Cunningham and Coordinator Calhoun to discuss managing organic waste, which will be mandatory due to AB 1826.
5. Education Subcommittee, Commissioner Birnberg and Lazar
 - Commissioner Birnberg reported the Subcommittee is continuing to plan and create a strategy on how they will proceed to help the other Subcommittees.
6. Green Building/Solar Subcommittee, Commissioner Otto
 - Commissioner Otto had no report.

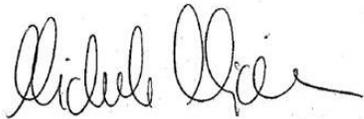
H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

(10 MINUTES)

- Commissioner Bettinger commented he will be attending an Ethics Class at the Convention Center the coming Monday.
- Manager Mician advised the Commission to review the grant report provided by Strategic Solutions.

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 Yepello. They will adjourn to the Regular Meeting which will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 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