



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at **5:00** p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Baker

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 posted by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Baker and unanimously carried.

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2017/2018 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2017/2018 Unexcused Absences</u>
Joe Jackson	X	57		
Roy Clark	X	21		
Grant Wilson	X	58		
David Freedman	X	32		
Jennifer Futterman	X	20	2	
Greg Gauthier	X	12	2	
John Goins	X	12	3	
Robert McCann	X	20	4	
T Santora	E	1	3	
Carl Baker	X	2		
Jessica Spry	X	3		
Dara Shay – Student Rep	X	4	1	

X = Present

E = Excused (notified Chair and Staff of absence)

L = Late

U = did not notify of absence

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Jay Virata, Director of Community & Economic Development, Daniel DeGarmo, Clerical Assistant, and Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator.

CITY MANAGER / STAFF COMMENTS – Director Virata stated that Desert Cities Energy Community Choice Aggregation is moving forward with a plan that will hopefully be implemented in July 2018. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS – Dara Shay invited Commissioners to the March for our Lives event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Paul Hinrichsen, Palm Springs, spoke on the Tobacco Retailers Permit (TRP) for Riverside County and a City ordinance for smoking restrictions.

Jim Flannagan, Palm Springs, spoke in support of the La Verne Way bike lane proposal.

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - None

B. PRESENTATIONS –

1. Celebrity Bike Rentals – Bike Sharing Program –

George Reyes and Daniela Aviles gave a presentation on a dockless bicycle share program called “OWL”. The bike share system is supported by a smart phone app and bicycles can be rented and unlocked through the app.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

2. Recycling Update from PSDS – Chris Cunningham

Mr. Cunningham gave an update on the status of the recycling program of plastic and paper being shipped to China. China will accept only recyclables with a much lower level of contamination, which effectively

amounts to a ban.

There is no domestic market at this time for these products either and the products will be going into a landfill if no market is defined. Mr. Cunningham stated that the future is to go waste to energy projects. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

C. MEETING MINUTES

February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting minutes approval: Motion by Commissioner Gauthier to approve as amended, second by Commissioner Spry and approved by an open vote. Commissioners Goins and Futterman abstained.

D. RECYCLING REPORT, Gary Calhoun reported on the E-waste and Shredding Recycling event on Saturday, February 17, 2018. Over 100 vehicles participated. Mr. Calhoun also commented on the CalRecycle Beverage Container Grant funds available for beverage recycling containers.

Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Tree and Plaque Dedication for Michele Mician – Chair Jackson stated that the ceremony for the tree dedication was well attended and a plaque has been placed by the tree in Michele Mician’s honor.
2. Ad Hoc Committee on Film Festival Programs –Commissioner Gauthier reported on the Wild and Scenic Film Festival that he and Commissioner Futterman attended. A full report will be presented at the April 17, 2018 meeting.
3. Community Gardens Clean-up Plans – Commissioner Spry reported that the gardens are looking good. Chair Jackson asked if Commissioner Spry could work with staff on getting the word out about the gardens to get more participation. Chair Jackson requested that a flyer be developed to hand out at events the Commission participates in.
4. Study Session with Council Liaison Kors: Topics, date, schedule – Vice Chair Clark reported on his meeting with Councilperson Kors and possible topics for a Study Session with him. Possible dates for the Study Session were presented.
5. Continuing Discussion on Sustainability Priorities, Budget, and Activity Plans for FY 2017-18 and beyond.
 - a. Green Jobs – Commissioner Goins – No Report
 - b. Eco Travel – Commissioner Futterman – No Report
 - c. Water Priorities – Commissioner Freedman – with his report on Water
 - d. Product Stewardship – Commissioners McCann and Vice Chair Clark – No Report
 - e. Leaf Blower Training – Vice Chair Clark and Chair Jackson – No Report

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Advertising budget for World Environment Day – Commissioner Futterman requested that the Commission support the World Environment Day event. **Motion:** “To approve not more than \$2500.00 for up to two billboards promoting World Environment Day” by Commissioner Futterman and seconded by Commissioner Fry. Discussion ensued and motion was unanimously passed.
2. Commission Recommendation Regarding La Verne Way – Commissioners Wilson, Freedman, Vice Chair Clark. **Motion:** Approve report to forward to the City Council by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Freedman. Discussion on the report and additions to the report ensued and motion was unanimously passed.
3. Discussion on a Proposed Ordinance Regarding Clean Air, Smoking, and Tobacco Use in the City of Palm Springs – Commissioner Baker reported on the proposed ordinance for the City stating that the ban would limit smoking to a single family residence only. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed. A motion will be placed on the April 17, 2018 meeting for a vote regarding the Riverside County Tobacco Retail Licensing agreements with municipalities.
4. Request From the Palm Springs Public Library to Sponsor Prizes for the Summer Reading Program. **Motion:** Approve \$350.00 to purchase bikes and safety equipment by Chair Jackson and seconded by Commissioner Baker. No discussion on the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

G. COMMITTEE AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

1. Standing Committee on Solar and Green Building - Commissioners Freedman and Goins – Commissioner Freedman reported on the Desert Community Energy Board meeting and upcoming actions the board would like to bring forth. The Energy Commission has postponed the new energy code that was to be adopted. Commissioner Freedman is also working on getting the City designated as a “SolSmart” city. He also reported on the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan that City Council will be considering at the next Council meeting. Commissioner Goins reported on the status of the Green Building Council program on green building fundamentals. The classes will be held on three consecutive Saturdays in April.
2. Standing Committee on Waste Reduction - Commissioners McCann, Spry and Vice Chair Clark – Commissioner McCann reported on the status of the battery recycling program and that a grant for the program has been submitted to CalRecycle who is offering the grant. Commissioner McCann also reported that the committee is working on an ordinance and staff report on a ban on polystyrene containers and plastic straws. Also, a committee meeting will be held to discuss possible ways to use the CalRecycle Beverage Container grant funds to purchase recycle bins for beverage containers.
3. Ad Hoc Committee on Walkability and Pedestrian Planning - Commissioner Wilson – No Report.
4. Wellness - Commissioner Baker spoke to the Desert Healthcare District and that they will be having some activities this spring and would welcome the support of the Commission.
5. Water - Commissioner Freedman reported that DWA issued a resolution commending the City of Palm Springs on their water savings. The DWA board meeting stated that the water conservation amount in January was 6% from the 2013 baseline. The cumulative reduction since June 2016 is at 18%. Commissioner Freedman stated that he will be attending a tour of the Hoover Dam in April sponsored by DWA.
6. Outreach - Commissioner Futterman expressed thanks for supporting the World Environment Day event and that design for the billboards will commence.
Comments and questions from the commissioners on the above reports were presented and discussed.

H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS -

Vice Chair Clark shared information on the Milkweeds for Monarchs pledge that the Commission is asking the mayor to sign. Information on the program will be available at the ONE-PS picnic and Farmers Market. Student Representative Dara Shay stated that the Garden Club at Palm Springs High School will have a booth at the DWA Butterfly Block Party event.

Commissioner Futterman expressed her disappointment that the Buzz trolley will be discontinued in June. Chair Jackson expressed his gratitude to the commissioners for their continuing work on the commission.

- I. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:00 PM by a motion from Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Goins and approved by a unanimous vote. They adjourned to the Regular Meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 in the Large Conference Room at the Palm Springs City Hall. 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,

Jay Virata, Director of Community and Economic Development, For the Office of Sustainability