



## SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION - SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 22, 2018 Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at **5:05** p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Chair Jackson .

**ROLL CALL:** A quorum was present for this Special 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 Gauthier and seconded by Commissioner Santora and unanimously carried.

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2018/2019 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2018/2019 Unexcused Absences</u>
Joe Jackson	X	63		
Roy Clark	X	27		
Grant Wilson	X	64		
David Freedman	E	37	1	
Jennifer Futterman	X	24	1	
Greg Gauthier	X	18		
John Goins	X	16	1	
Robert McCann	X	25		
T Santora	X	7		
Carl Baker	X	7		

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, Program Coordinator, Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator.

**CITY MANAGER / STAFF COMMENTS** – Director Virata stated that he, Gary Calhoun, Recycling Coordinator, and Chris Cunningham, Palm Springs Disposal Services, toured the Downtown area businesses and informed them of the new requirements for organic recycling as of January 1, 2019.

**COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS** – None.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS** –

Richard Noble, Palm Springs / Blythe – Spoke on the Riverside County Climate Reality Project.

**A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Chair Jackson welcomed all in attendance.

**B. PRESENTATIONS** - Assistant Director of Engineering Joel Montalvo and Senior Civil Engineer Donn Uyeno presented information on the two-way conversion of Indian Canyon Boulevard in Downtown Palm Springs. Indian Canyon will become two-way between Camino Parocela and Alejo Road. Pedestrian and safety enhancements were also discussed. Sharrows will be included for bicycle traffic. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

### **C. MEETING MINUTES**

September 24, 2018 Special Meeting minutes approval: Motion by Commissioner Baker to approve as amended, second by Commissioner Santora and approved unanimously by an open vote.

**D. RECYCLING REPORT,** Recycling Coordinator Gary Calhoun reported that the Recycling Event held on October 20, 2018 was the best he has ever seen. About 286 vehicles came through with shredding and e-

waste to be disposed of. He also reported that the 2019-20 CalRecycle Beverage Container Grant is open with the application due by December 4, 2018. Desert Arc will be coming to pick up e-waste collected by the City. Comments and questions from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

#### E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Status of the Leaf Blower Brochure and Informational Campaign – Daniel DeGarmo reported that until we know what AQMD is doing with their exchange program the flyer that is being produced is on hold. The new program is being developed for Economic Justice area. At this time we do not know if Palm Springs is in an Economic Justice area.
2. Report on status of hiring a manager for the Office of Sustainability – Commissioner Goins and Vice Chair Clark. Vice Chair Clark reported that the two finalists will be interviewed on October 23, 2018. Comments and questions on the above reports from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

#### F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on a possible ordinance regulating Smoking and Tobacco Product Use. Commissioner Baker reported that the City Council has passed the Riverside County Tobacco Retailing Permitting Ordinance which will become effective November 17, 2018. He also reported on a possible resolution on banning smoking in public areas of the City. A top ten list of issues concerning the ordinance was discussed including multi-unit housing. Paul Hinrichsen and Bob Heinbaugh provided additional information.
2. Discussion and Action on whether or not to include the Flag Salute as a regular agenda item. - Chair Jackson introduced that the flag salute was carried over from the previous chair. Commissioner Baker stated that he is in favor of continuing the flag salute and Commissioner McCann stated that he is in favor of discontinuing the flag salute. Commissioner Santora made the following **Motion**: To discontinue with the inclusion of the Flag Salute as a regular agenda item. Second from Commissioner Goins. Discussion followed. Motion passed on an open vote 8-1 with Commissioner Baker opposing the motion. The Flag Salute will no longer be a regular agenda item. Comments and questions on the above reports from the commissioners were presented and discussed.

#### G. COMMITTEE AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

1. Standing Subcommittee on Solar and Green Building - Commissioners Freedman and Goins – Commissioner Goins stated no further statement needed, the written report was sufficient. Chair Jackson recognized Commissioner Freedman on getting the SolSmart Gold award.
2. Standing Subcommittee on Waste Reduction - Commissioner McCann and Vice Chair Clark. Commissioner McCann reported that the Construction and Demolition Waste ordinance is still with the City Council subcommittee. Commissioner McCann also reported on the polystyrene and plastic straw ban and that the City Council has requested further information. Next, he reported that the new recycle containers have been installed in City Parks and requested that the bright blue trash containers still located in the parks be re-painted or replaced with brown containers that are more representative of trash containers. He also reported on organic waste diversion and the Anaergia company's technology for diverting organic waste. The subcommittee gave a presentation to Councilmember Holstege and Councilmember Kors on the system on October 2, 2018. The feedback was positive and the Councilmembers requested further information on what other Anaergia projects in California have done, what their stake is and how they were funded. Commissioner McCann emailed the Councilmembers on October 17, 2018 with the information. The next step is getting a report from Anaergia on what would be included in a detailed proposal to install the system. Commissioner McCann is working on information for a Staff Report. Commissioner McCann also reported that a grant for \$35,450.00 for battery recycling has been awarded from CalRecycle. A meeting with Barbara Baker from CalRecycle was held on October 10, 2018 to discuss best practices and reporting requirements. Commissioner McCann also reported on the City Council agenda item to purchase additional trash/recycling bins and that the item was removed from the agenda for further review. Lastly, Commissioner McCann reported on a possible waste reduction/solar workshop at the NUSA conference coming to Palm Springs in May 2019. Commissioner McCann also made the following **MOTION**: The Sustainability Commission recommends that there be consistency in design and color to conform to the norms of recycling and trash containers; blue for recycling and brown for trash. Seconded by Vice Chair Clark. Discussion

ensued and motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Ad Hoc Committee on Walkability and Pedestrian Planning - Commissioner Gauthier stated they are waiting on a response from the Southern CA Association of Governments in terms of status of the Safe Routes to School program grant.
4. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Film Festival Programs – Commissioner Futterman stated they are meeting with Tim Rains and Megan Goehring of the Palm Springs Cultural Center on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 and will have a full report next month.
5. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Bicycle Routes and Cycling – Jim Flanagan stated no report, a meeting is being held later this month and a full report will be forthcoming next month.
6. Wellness – No further report.
7. Water - Commissioner Freedman is excused and no report.
8. Outreach – No report.

Comments and questions from the commissioners on the above reports were presented and discussed.

**H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS -**

Vice Chair Clark reported that 40 people attended the Butterfly migration and desert milkweed presentation at the Library. Chair Jackson encouraged the Commissioners to submit reports to Staff or Chair and Vice Chair by Wednesday before the Commission meeting.

- I. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 6:56 PM by a motion from Commissioner Santora and seconded by Commissioner Gauthier and approved by a unanimous vote. They adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the Sustainability Commission to be held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 20, 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