



SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
 Tuesday, February 18, 2020 Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

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

ROLL CALL: A quorum was present for this Regular Meeting of the City of Palm Springs Sustainability Commission.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

AGENDA APPROVAL: The agenda was presented by Chair Clark. A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Garratt and carried by an open vote 9-0-1 with Commissioner Baker abstaining.

	This Meeting	Present to Date	FY 2019/2020 Excused Absences	FY 2019/2020 Unexcused Absences
Roy Clark, Chair	X	42		
Robert McCann, Vice Chair	X	40		
David Freedman	X	52		
Jennifer Futterman	X	36	3	
Greg Gauthier	X	32	1	
John Goins	X	26	3	
Carl Baker	X	18	2	
Jim Flanagan	X	11	1	
Lani Miller	E	10	1	
Sandra Garratt	X	7		

X = Present E = Excused (notified Chair and Staff of absence)
 L = Late U = did not notify of absence

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Tallarico, Manager, Office of Sustainability; Daniel DeGarmo, Program Coordinator.

CITY MANAGER / STAFF COMMENTS – Manager Tallarico reported on the following:

- At the January 30, 2020, Council meeting, Council discussed meeting times of boards and commissions, language access policy stating all notices must also be available in Spanish, Cogen post construction contract issued for a period of five years, and a DCE update.
- On February 13, 2020, the Council approved the landscape architecture services contract, a study session on the plastics ordinance, along with a Climate Action discussion. Council also requested information on how to make biking a more viable choice for getting around the City.
- The upcoming February 27, 2020 Council meeting may include a smoking ordinance discussion.
- At the March 19, 2020 Council meeting a discussion on parking violations in EV Charging spots may be included.
- A kickoff meeting with the landscape architecture company for the airport turf conversion should occur next week.
- The DCE Launch is getting underway with videos that were produced to inform the public.
- The Greenhouse Gas Inventory scope and proposal are in the process of being revised.
- New Hiking Trail signs have been posted around the City directing people to hiking trails in town.
- The City is planning on increasing outreach, especially related to recycling, in the month of April. This would include mailings and an in-person session at the LGBTQ Center.
- An ad for the 25th Anniversary of Earth Day will be in the April edition of Poolside Magazine.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Tony Krohn, Palm Springs, spoke on the GHG inventory update, Outreach opportunities, Climate Action Plan, and the Leafblower ban.
2. Christopher Roesner, Palm Springs, commented on the Climate Action Plan, GHG inventory, and the

A. MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes approval: Motion by Commissioner Baker to accept as presented, second by Commissioner Flanagan. Motion passed unanimously with 3 abstentions (Baker, Garratt, Futterman).

B. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioners discussed the following items.

1. Single-use Plastics Ordinance:

Manager Tallarico stated that there have not been any changes to the ordinance since last month. A Study Session at a Council meeting will be held to get input from the Council, residents and businesses. Manager Tallarico is researching what other cities are doing. He is also looking into getting some local businesses to participate.

2. Leaf Blower Ban Enforcement Enhancements:

Manager Tallarico stated that citations are continuing to be issued and he is continuing to send letters to homeowners notifying them that their landscape company is not following the law. Gated community access was also discussed along with obtaining the assistance of the Citizens on Patrol. An increase of fines for offenders is also in the works. Manager Tallarico is also determining if a "Loaner" program could work with Yoshi's Lawn Mower shop by providing one or two blowers that could be loaned out while a blower is being repaired.

3. EV Charging Locations:

Manager Tallarico stated that a meeting with SCE and Chargepoint will be held this week to discuss locations and any questions they may have on moving this forward. He also stated that a grant from the State has been awarded to Palm Springs for a Level 3 fast charger. Other grants are available and will be looked at for possible funding sources.

4. Climate Action Roadmap

Manager Tallarico presented the Staff Report for and the Climate Action Roadmap that will be going to City Council. Input from Council will be brought back to the Commission for action. Updates to the GHG inventory from 2010 are being made to make a more accurate comparison to the current inventory.

5. Smoking Ordinance Development

Manager Tallarico brought back the potential ordinance on smoking in public places. City Council has requested that a stakeholder study session be held to obtain more feedback on the subject.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Parking fines for non-electric vehicles in electric vehicle parking spaces

Manager Tallarico reported on a bail schedule for non-electric vehicle or electric vehicle parked in an EV Charging spot and not utilizing the charger. Examples from other cities were cited. A \$100.00 fine was recommended.

MOTION: "To accept Staff's recommendation that the fine for occupying an electric vehicle charging station parking space without actually charging be set at \$100.00 which is the State's recommendation."

Motion by Commissioner Freedman and seconded by Commissioner Baker. Commissioners discussed the motion and the motion passed unanimously on an open vote.

2. Changing meeting start time to 5:30 PM

Chair Clark reported that City Council has requested that all Commission and Board meetings begin at 5:30 or later to allow for more participation by community members.

MOTION: "That the Sustainability Commission meetings start at 5:30 PM beginning in March 2020."

Motion by Commissioner Freedman and seconded by Commissioner Gauthier. Commissioners discussed the motion and amended the motion to: "That the Sustainability Commission meetings start at 5:30 PM beginning in April 2020." Ways to minimize time spent on agenda items were discussed also, including providing more written updates and limiting discussion to new or decisional items. Motion passed 9-1-0 with Vice Chair McCann opposing the motion in favor of retaining the current start time.

3. Potential ban on Roundup®

Chair Clark presented the document prepared by Commissioner Garratt that was distributed to Commissioners in the agenda packet. Commissioners discussed the material and how it applies to the City of Palm Springs. Education and outreach to citizens was presented as a way to let the community know of the dangers of the products being used for weed control. The City attorney will be consulted on jurisdiction of this issue. Enforcement will also be an issue. Limiting the sale of these products was also discussed. Manager Tallarico will speak with the City attorney on the jurisdictional issue and what else could be done by the City and will report back at the next Commission meeting.

D. SUBCOMMITTEE AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners discussed the following items:

1. Standing Subcommittee on Solar and Green Building (See Subcommittee Report)
 - a. Commissioner Freedman provided a brief update on the implementation of the new building code, the home energy assessment program, and the continuing development of a draft ordinance on requiring renewable energy for commercial businesses.
2. Standing Subcommittee on Waste Reduction (See Subcommittee Report)
 - a. Manager Tallarico provided a brief update on the acquired membership to the National Stewardship Action Council to promote regulation of flushable wipes. Research continues on the wastewater treatment plant improvements.
3. Standing Subcommittee on World Environment Day –
Commissioner Futterman reported that progress is being made on the June 7, 2020 event. The theme for WED globally is pollinators and for the local event will also include youth voice and our sustainable future. Advertising for the event was also presented. Budget considerations will be presented at the next meeting for consideration. A webpage for the event is accessible through the Sustainability website.
4. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Earth Day –
 - a. Commissioner Baker reported that there will be an Earth Day gathering in association with the Sustainable Film series and that a private citizen is also working on an event the same night.
 - b. ONE-PS Neighborhood Challenge – Manager Tallarico is revising the list of activities being revised and will be sent to the ONE PS team.
 - c. Green Citizen and Student Awards – Nominations are being accepted until March 16th.
5. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Walkability & Pedestrian Planning – Manager Tallarico reported that the firm that has been selected to do the Master Plan has made it through the audit phase. Negotiation phase is now in progress.
6. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Crosswalks and Pedestrian Safety – No report.
7. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Bicycle Routes and Cycling – Chair Clark reported that Councilmember Middleton contacted him and other members of ONE-PS requesting if a review of existing streets with bike lanes was warranted. Chair Clark suggested that this is a question for the Sustainability Commission. Commissioner Flanagan reported on some specific examples of changes that should be made. Chair Clark stated that a few targeted reviews should be made rather than a full City review. He will report back to Councilmember Middleton.
8. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Night Sky – Vice Chair McCann reported that progress is being made on a dark skies ordinance. A presentation was shown (see attached) with information on what other cities are doing. The presentation also showed fixtures that are more conducive to dark skies. Vice Chair McCann also stated that this issue should be discussed valley-wide.
9. Water Conservation – Commissioner Freedman reported the DWA board approved a submission for a \$75,000.00 grant from the US Bureau of Reclamation for turf removal and that they are still

waiting to hear back from their request for Prop 1 money. Rebate for turf removal and other water conservation measures is still available from DWA. There was a 20% water reduction in January from the 2013 baseline, with 19.8% cumulative savings for the year and 17.4% since June 2016 when targets were established. DWA has also convinced the State Department of Water Resources to include seasonal population figures when calculating daily per capita water use.

10. Wellness –

- a 3-4-50 Campaign: 3 Habits (smoking, tobacco, diet) that lead to 4 diseases (cardiovascular disease, cancer, respiratory disease, diabetes) which cause 50% of deaths in humans. Commissioner Baker reported that this is a public information campaign to educate the public that healthier living, and he will reach out to public health offices.

11. Desert Community Energy, Community Advisory Committee – Commissioner Freedman reported that the DCE Board approved the Palm Springs Working Group to focus on Palm Springs-specific activities related to the launch of DCE in Palm Springs. Three community meetings have been planned to educate the community. Lift to Rise is doing community outreach to enroll people in various utility discount programs.

E. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND UPCOMING AGENDA DEVELOPMENT –

- Commissioner Freedman requested that an agenda item be placed regarding the General Plan update and how it applies to the Sustainability Commission.
- Commissioner Garratt asked about having a citrus exchange at the ONE-PS picnic.

F. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at 7:10 PM by a motion from Commissioner Gauthier and seconded by Commissioner Goins 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, March 17, 2020, in the Large Conference Room at the Palm Springs City Hall. The Sustainability Commission's regular meeting schedule is at 5:00 p.m. the third Tuesday each month except August unless otherwise noted or amended. Please note that the meeting start times will move to 5:30 PM beginning in April 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Tallarico, Manager, Office of Sustainability