

Minutes

City of Tempe Sustainability Commission

February 20, 2016

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission Retreat held on Saturday, February 20, 2016, 11:00 a.m., at the ASU Wrigley Hall 800 Cady Mall, 4th floor, room 481, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

John F. Kane (Chair)
Kendon Jung (Vice Chair)
Jessica Hauer
Mary Ann Miller
Arnim Wiek

Alix Monty
Aaron Redman
Corey Hawkey
Gretchen Reinhardt
Carol Hu

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Colin Tetreault

City Staff Present:

Don Bessler, Public Works Director
Carla Sidi, Public Works Executive Assistant
Wydale Holmes, Facilitator

Guests Present:

Ben Sanders, Community Ministries
Councilmember Lauren Kuby
Zoe Sten, ASU student
Patricia Susanto, ASU student

Chair John Kane called the meeting to order at 10:10a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance

Chair John Kane called for any public appearances. Mr. Ben Sanders introduced himself and spoke about a Faith Based ecology initiative he is involved in and leading. Their primary focus is integrating the Federal EPA Energy star program into their house of worship.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Kane introduced the minutes of the January 19, 2016 meeting and asked for a motion. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Mary Ann Miller

Second: Commissioner Aaron Redman

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3 – Introductions

Each Commissioner shared videos, slides and information about themselves highlighting their passions and areas of focus.

Agenda Item 4 – Visioning, Mission, Strategic Direction & Work Plan

VISION

Using a facilitated and participatory process, Wydale worked with the commission through a brainstorm activity to establish the Commission's vision, answering the question: *What do we want to see in place in 3-5 years as a result of our actions?*

MISSION

Through a facilitated process, the Commission collaborated to draft a mission statement:

The Mission of the Tempe Sustainability Commission is to be a culture-catalyst to provide leadership, education, and guidance on inspirational and transformational sustainability programs and policies to City Council and for our entire community so to foster a healthy and resilient Tempe that positively impacts the region, the nation, and the world.

Incorporating the vision elements, **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS** were prioritized by the Commission. The three top priorities were identified as 1) Staff resources and 2) Sustainability Plan, and 3) Collaborations.

1. Sustainability Plan
 - Create Environmental Plan for City
 - Benchmarks for sustainable indicators (create strategic plan)
 - Goals and Strategic Plan (bench making)
 - Create Sustainability Strategic Plan for COT with links to City Programs
 - Bridge Siloes (schools, faith comm., cities and business)
 - Tempe sustainable as ASU- working in unison – Synergetic
 - Focus Sustainability Initiatives on Low income Communities
 - Water Conservation strategy/guidelines
 - Identify areas and address of greatest need (demographically, environmentally and others)
2. Staff Resources
 - Sustainability Coordinator
 - Necessary Level of staff and resource
 - Create a City of Tempe/ASU Sustainability Coordinator position
 - Sustainability is integrated/ingrained with City front line staff - cultural
3. Collaborations
 - Cross-City collaborations
 - Regional Cooperation among like commission in East Valley and within Tempe
 - Resilience Festival - diverse, fun, informative, creative, NAssoc., Cities, business, innovation research)
 - Create a network of pioneers committed to sustainable practices across the community
 - Survey/mechanism for stakeholders involvement- buy-in (North vs South Tempe)

4. New Program Ideas
 - Green Building incentives for private development
 - Build out and increase access of digital sustainability resources and information
 - Development of policy change for public entity savings of capital vs. O&M
 - Carbon pricing
 - Healthy homes vs. funding for renovation (IEQ/health)
 - Education Resource center (physical or virtual)

5. External Support
 - Strengthen existing city programs towards transformational sustainability
 - Capacity & resources for attracting additional resources to Tempe
 - Identify Leverage existing funding resources for Sustainability Programs
 - Streamline process for collaboration through reduces barriers

6. Branding
 - Tempe renown for Sustainability resiliency
 - Consistent & Collaborative marketing campaign for valley players
 - Reputation of Sustainability in Tempe. A culture catalyst

ACTION

The Commission agreed that a starting point for the work plan should be an inventory of the sustainability efforts across the City. Don Bessler and John Kane agreed to work on the self-assessment matrix worksheet to present at the next meeting.

Items moved to next meeting:

- Commission will decide the group norms on how to pursue a) internship requests, b) parking lot items, c) request for presentations by vendors, d) officer elections, and e) setting agendas

Agenda Item 8- Housekeeping Items

None

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

None

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Prepared by: Carla Sidi

Reviewed by: Don Bessler