



Minutes City of Tempe Sustainability Commission September 19, 2016

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission held on Monday, September 19, 2016, 4:30 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, 31 E. 5th Street, Garden Level, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

John F. Kane (Chair)
Kendon Jung (Vice Chair)
Alix Monty
Jessica Hauer
Aaron Redman

Corey Hawkey
Gretchen Reinhardt
Carol Hu
Arnim Wiek
Colin Tetreault – by phone

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Aaron Redman

City Staff Present:

Don Bessler, Public Works Director
Carla Sidi, Executive Assistant

Guests Present:

Ashley Goldstein, HPU Graduate
Taylor Daniels, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism
Kaiying Gu, ASU undergraduate
Cynthia Fu, ASU undergraduate

Chair John Kane called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance

None

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Kane introduced the minutes of the August 15, 2016 meeting and asked for a motion.

A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Jung

Second: Commissioner Monty

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3 – Recap Previous Presentations

Rainwater Harvesting

Don explained the process of a City Council Working Group. He recapped how the Water Conservation Working Group reported back to City Council. The working group made a recommendation to the City Council that PW will continue to work on the Rainwater Harvesting as part of the water conservation. City Council also referred this item to the Sustainability Commission for study and recommendations.

This will be a standing agenda item under Council Referrals

Resiliency Workshop

Don gave an update about Resiliency Workshop. The workshop is scheduled on Thursday, November 10th. Ryan Johnson, from ASU School of Sustainability, sent an engagement letter outlining a general time frame for the workshop milestones.

The purpose of the workshop is to develop a working understanding of Sustainability and Resiliency, a commitment to how departments can operationalize these strategies into their practices and tie them back to the City Council strategic initiatives. In summary, build capacity within the senior leadership of the organization.

Agenda Item 4 – Sustainability Award

Commissioner Hu distributed the Tempe Sustainability Award Application and 2017 Evaluation draft forms.

Commissioners gave feedback:

- Develop criteria and how to tie them to the adopted City Sustainability Goals
- Provide a formal way to solicit different sustainability ideas (working and non-working concepts) – Community Engagement
- Develop a Sustainability Workshop as part of the event
- Distinguish different awards - add narrative under each award
- Sponsorship

Commissioner Hu and Hauer will review the forms based on the Commissioners' feedback.

Agenda Item 5 – Sustainability Manager

Don introduced Braden Kay, City of Tempe Sustainability Manager. Braden reports to Steven Methvin, Deputy City Manager -Chief Operations Officer. Braden talked about his background. He will be focusing on understanding the organization goals and alignment with the Sustainability Commission.

The Commission discussed different work plan ideas and partnership. Commissioners talked about city staff protocol process and whether the position was an Ad hoc Commission member. The Sustainability Manager has the same role as any staff person and is not on the Commission.

Agenda Item 6 – Carbon Resolution

Commissioner Reinhardt presented a PowerPoint and a few videos about Carbon Neutrality.

Commission discussed:

- ✓ Carbon Reduction - utility carbon footprint analysis
- ✓ Portfolio Approach
- ✓ School Bus - mobile exhibit
- ✓ ASU in partnership with Duke University is developing new protocol for urban carbon offset/urban tree offset initiatives.
 - Create a meter to contribute in the overall health of the community
 - Develop resiliency protocol in conjunction with other universities
- ✓ Engage the community – create foundation and educate the community

- ✓ Continue discussion under Climate Action Conversation

Discussion about community engagement on this idea. Commissioners agreed to continue discussing this issue in order to elevate community awareness and dialogue.

Agenda Item 7 – Housekeeping

Commission Terms

-Don talked to the City Attorney and gave an update about specific appointment criteria required by some City of Tempe Commissions.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda

-ASU Urban Tree Offset – Commissioner Hawkey

-Climate Action

-Mechanism of Community Engagement

Commissioner Corey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Hu seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:34pm.

Prepared by: Carla Sidi

Reviewed by: Don Bessler