



Minutes City of Tempe Sustainability Commission June 25, 2018

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission meeting held on Monday, June 25, 2018, 4:30 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Corey Hawkey (Chair)
Kendon Jung (Vice Chair)
John F. Kane
Reyna Olvey

Gretchen Reinhardt
Alix Monty
Anne Gill
Stephanie Milam-Edwards

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Arnim Wiek
Laura Medina

City Staff Present:

Braden Kay, Sustainability Manager
Grace DelMonte Kelly, Energy Management Coordinator
Will Nicholson, Sustainability Intern

Guests Present:

Meghan Marshall, ASU student
Chloe Jones, ASU student
Jacqueline Madlem, ASU student
Rachel Diepenbrock, ASU student

Chair Hawkey called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance

Chair Hawkey asked members of the public to introduce themselves. Meghan Marshall, Chloe Jones, Jacqueline Madlem and Rachel Diepenbrock introduced themselves.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Hawkey introduced the minutes of the May 21, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Reinhardt recommended revisions to the meeting minutes to reflect the two proposals that were presented.

Commissioner Monty made a motion to approve the minutes with recommended edits with final approval by Chair Hawkey.

Motion: Commissioner Monty

Second: Commissioner Reinhardt

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3 – Introduction of New Commissioner

This agenda item was continued to the next agenda.

Agenda Item 4 – Chair Update

Chair Hawkey presented a PowerPoint on the charge of the commission, goals from the last council retreat and the workplan for the upcoming year.

The Commission's charge is to research, advise and recommend to the city council policies and programs that advance sustainability in Tempe, with attention to sustainability in the following areas:

- Energy management (city operations and the city as a whole)
- Climate-action plan with a roadmap of actions to be recommended
- Local food and agriculture
- Livable neighborhoods and happy communities
- Land use and development
- Building Practices
- Purchasing practices
- Economic development (green jobs)
- Solid waste, recycling, and hazardous waste
- Water and wastewater management
- Transportation
- Dark skies
- Air quality
- Environmental justice
- Preparedness and resiliency (as of June 2015)

Chair Hawkey said the charge of the commission is to:

- Assist city departments in executing approved policies and programs
- Support education and outreach related to the city's sustainability practices
- Identify potential sustainability partnerships with public, private and educational entities, and
- Recommend for City Council consideration a comprehensive sustainability plan with measurable goals and benchmarks to ensure year-to-year progress

The mission statement of the Sustainability Commission is to be a culture-catalyst to provide leadership, education and guidance on sustainability programs and policies to city council and for our entire community to transform Tempe into a healthy and resilient city that inspires the region, the nation and the world.

Chair Hawkey said the three goals created in last year's Commission retreat were:

- Water Goals
 - Study water issues and form water policy recommendations to forward to city council. The commission will make recommendations on revising target, adding additional programs and adopting new rates codes and policies.

- Continued support for incorporation of LID/Rainwater Harvesting into engineering and development code
- Support for Equity in Action and monitoring of how that effort may affect future water policy and rates
- Climate and Energy Goals
 - Commission will recommend revisions to the existing performance measures focused on energy. The commission will research potential targets, look at other cities with carbon neutrality to see what they did, participate in Council energy working group meetings and identify other stakeholder groups to help advocate for clean energy transition. The revised performance measures should be part of the development of the Climate Action Plan and include transportation (fleet, vehicle emissions) in the municipal renewable energy goal and include a community-wide renewable energy goal.
- Sustainable Construction Goals
 - Commission will engage in a Land Use Pilot project for City Hall & land that incorporates four existing performance measures that relates to buildings and green infrastructure. The commission will review measures and ROI, help inform the RFP for City Hall renovation and identify metrics to determine energy and water savings. This process will be used to recommend changes to engineering policies on new municipal buildings and changes to city code to support transformative sustainability outcomes for all buildings in Tempe.

Chair Hawkey said that the goals have evolved since the commission retreat. They have become a little more specific and targeted, for example the city hall remodel evolved into sustainable construction and infrastructure.

The Commission's objectives over the next year are to:

- Develop recommendations and other appropriate materials for the Climate Action Plan by Spring 2019 as outlined in the energy goal.
- Develop recommendations and other appropriate materials for Sustainable Design and Construction by Spring 2019 as outlined in the design goal
- Support LID/Green Infrastructure Policy
- Support Equity in Action process and review development of an equity tool kit.

The timeline to get the commission prepared for the next council report-out and to make recommendations for the Climate Action Plan in Spring is as follows:

- August - Sustainable Construction and Infrastructure
- September – Sustainable Construction and Infrastructure and Extreme Heat in Climate Action Plan
- October – Sustainable Construction and Infrastructure and Transportation in Climate Action Plan
- November –Local Food and Urban Forestry in Climate Action Plan
- December – Water and Waste in Climate Action Plan
- January – Review of Climate Plan Recommendations
- February – Sustainable Construction and Infrastructure Finalization

Sustainability Manager Braden Kay said we need to continue to work on sustainable construction and infrastructure through December and there will be community forums on these topics. There will be a community energy forum in September. The commission will see the climate action plan presentations before they go to City Council.

Commissioners asked if they should go to the public forums. Braden said yes, the commission can attend and speak

to residents.

Commissioners said this is good, it helps to see all the steps and the end game.

Agenda Item 5 – Office of Sustainability Update

Sustainability Manager Braden Kay said the Office of Sustainability has received several grants, including a \$10,000 grant from Pew charitable trust to look at the impact of climate on public health. This grant will be used to do workshops on resilience. Braden received notification of two separate grants to look at food/water and climate change. They paired with European cities for the water and climate smart solutions. City of Phoenix is recipient of grant. They received a grant from Canada for the role of entrepreneurship in creating sustainable communities and 2-3 additional grants on climate/infrastructure/equity and we're working with University of Buffalo and ASU to apply for \$2-3 Million grant to help use weather data in decision meeting. Also, we're working with Boston, Fort Lauderdale and Missouri to create a board game to address climate adaptation, that can be used around different cities to teach cities how to discuss resilience with staff.

On the energy side, we're going forward and putting in a bid in for APS' sustainable legacy program in July. We should hear back in February. The Sustainability Director position will be posted this or next week. The current position is temporary, and this proposed position is a director position that will be housed in the City Manager's office.

Agenda Item 6 – Climate Action Plan & Equity in Action

Sustainability Manager Braden Kay gave the commission an update on the Climate Action Plan. A Climate Action Plan in Tempe would:

- Have an overall carbon reduction goal and renewable energy goal for the community
- New goal for resilience to extreme heat
- Menu of potential investments - projects in CIP and projects to put in year 5 before next bond authorization
- Develop community support and data to support actions and investments

These goals will make it easier for us to argue on why we need these investments. We will have an opportunity to get public feedback on the Climate action plan through:

- Forums and engagements
- Interviews
- Satellite events/ ASU events/city events
- Online forums
- Art Festival

There will be a Community Energy forum in October 2018 and a Transportation Forum in November. We will ask the commission how we determine what the goal will be. The most important thing is to have a carbon goal on the books.

Commissioners asked if staff could piggy back on the University as they have made great strides with budgets/costs/metrics. Commissioners said Portland is making their target they've had to go through the steps and lessons learned. AIA has goals on carbon reduction. Braden said we will send you a stakeholder list so you can add on to who we should include in the engagement.

Agenda Item 7 – Sustainable Construction and Infrastructure

Sustainability Manager Braden Kay said one of the key things to work on is sustainable construction and infrastructure. There are several rating systems and they will look at what policy the city should adopt for construction of public buildings and infrastructure.

Envision is a rating system for waterlines, street, bridges. All of Santa Monica's projects have been rated with this system. What are the areas the city needs to push?

Envision Certification Program:

- Quality of life
- Leadership
- Resource allocation
- Natural world
- Climate and risk

Tempe can use themes from Envision to create a more sustainable culture with Tempe's infrastructure practices.

Commissioners asked if there was feedback from Directors and Deputy Directors. Braden said, yes, we heard that the city has tried to do this before and it has been value engineered out, for example, recycled content. We have a ton of concrete and rock that we could reuse. We should have at least one or two projects and hire an envision certified professional to assist with projects. We've tried to do sustainability elements; the key piece is in putting it into the RFPs. Some cities decide on LEED certified.

Staff is looking at how many Envision certified professionals are in the Valley and in Arizona to ask them more about the rating system.

There is also a WELL building certification process that looks at:

- Air
- Water
- Nourishment
- Light
- Fitness
- Comfort
- Mind

It is expensive to get all the right consultants on board and dialed into food, energy and water. It is aspirational, something to work toward. The next thing for us to figure out is which areas we want to focus on to get to the place where we want to try these out. We can have experts come. A commissioner recommended writing down their thoughts on this, so they can give input on this later.

The Living Building Challenge is designed for anywhere in the country but not adapted for desert climate. LEED is about using less, and Living Building Challenge is about producing more than you're using.

Commissioners asked if there is an opportunity to do green buildings? Braden said Anthony Floyd came to talk to Community Development about green buildings in 2018. The City may pass that code as an option not as a requirement, like LEED silver building. Scottsdale's is voluntary. They've had a green building code since 2005.

Staff will reach out to developers that have used the green building code and have done good examples. We could ask them to come in. Anthony Floyd could give us contacts. If we can get the conversation based on metrics we can keep it objective.

Agenda Item 8 – Housekeeping Items

The commission discussed holding the next meeting on July 30th and the following meeting on August 20th. Braden said a new commissioner will be joining the commission, Ryan works for a nonprofit in the watershed management group.

There was a question about creating a subcommittee for sustainable infrastructure. Braden said in the fall, we have energy forums and climate action plan forums coming up, commission could help with that. We may need a retreat in spring to come up with Climate Action Plan goals.

Braden said we will send out Envision lead-in questions to the commission for feedback to help with discussion at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items:

Intel – internal carbon pricing
Energy meeting in September

A motion was made to adjourn.

Motion: Commissioner Jung

Second: Chair Hawkey

Decision: Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Prepared by: Grace DelMonte Kelly

Reviewed by: Braden Kay