



APPROVED 5/17/2023

SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES

City of Scottsdale
Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (SEAC)
Regular Meeting

5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Community Design Studio Nave
7506 E. Indian School Road, Scottsdale, 85251

Call to Order 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Ute Brady, Vice Chair Natalie Chrisman Lazarr (virtually); Commission Members: Tammy Bosse (virtually), Tony Coletta (left at 7:35 p.m.), Walter Cuculic, Ryan Johnson, Andrew Scheck

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director; Tim Conner, Manager -- Office of Environmental Initiatives; Erin Perreault, Planning, Economic Development & Tourism Executive Director (virtually); Cindi Eberhardt, Planning & Development Area Director (virtually)

PUBLIC COMMENT: Two public comments were received in advance of the meeting.

1) Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for March 22, 2023

Commissioner Bosse made a motion to approve the Summarized Meeting Minutes from March 22, 2023, with Commissioner Coletta providing a Second for the motion, which carried 7-0. All members voted for APPROVAL.

2) Presentation on solar development

Court Rich, Rose Law Group, presented on solar energy, battery storage, and electric vehicles and the opportunities for Scottsdale. One challenge for rooftop solar identified by Mr. Rich was expediting permits for solar and batteries. He also suggested supporting utility rate designs that support solar and batteries. Commissioners asked questions about how to work on these issues. Mr. Rich also suggested that the city could promote electric vehicle adoption by focusing on charging especially at multi-family and office buildings and on publicly owned land and by offering development bonuses for providing charging infrastructure in private development. Commissioners discussed leasing city easements for private development of charging infrastructure and keeping net metering on the public policy agenda. Mr. Rich suggested that the city leverage new refundable tax credits, install solar and batteries on city buildings, purchase electric fleet vehicles, and work with utilities. Community solar was briefly discussed. Commissioners discussed jurisdictional issues, the use of direct procurement of energy services, and solar shade structures on sidewalks.

3) **Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan**

Commissioners briefly discussed an email received from Councilwoman Janik detailing the schedule for the plan development and adoption over the next 15 months. Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director, presented on sustainability indicators for six topics: Climate Planning, Energy, Build Environment, Mobility, Air Quality, and Waste – and also shared an updated plan framework. Data collection and analysis is not complete, and assistance is needed in identifying sources for municipal GDP, population, total building square footage, solar PV installed capacity and use, and non-residential solid waste data (including construction and demolition).

Commissioner Scheck shared that the revised framework is an improvement, while Chair Brady suggested changing the Climate Planning topic into an overarching goal. Other discussion included the need for cost and economic indicators, the role of eco-tourism, and the importance of health and quality of life. Indicators for the remaining topics will be discussed at the May meeting. Chair Brady and Ms. McNeilly will meet in the interim to refine the list of indicators. Commissioners were asked to share any additional input before the May meeting and encouraged to look at the metrics as those areas that can be measured and impacted over time and used to set goals in the plan.

4) **Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission Annual Work Plan**

Chair Brady led a discussion on the 2023 Annual Work Plan, sharing that the latest version of the workplan reflects input from commissioners (Section V). Discussion centered on covering solid waste issues at the July and August meetings and inviting speakers from Phoenix and Mesa. Water conservation and turf will be scheduled for the September and October meetings. Other potential topics for the workplan include a status update on the implementation of the new building codes, considering recommendations on new residential building codes, integrated pest management, recycled content building materials, and re-starting the environmental awards.

5) **Earth and Arbor Day Planning**

Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director shared an update on plans for celebrating Earth and Arbor Days, including details on the SEAC table at the Green Expo on 4/22.

6) **Staff Updates**

Lisa McNeilly shared that the Office of Environmental Initiatives is hiring a Sustainability Data Intern and a reminder about the Council Work Study Session (WSS) on June 27th. Tim Conner shared an update on the extreme heat planning work, which will also be included in the 6/27 WSS.

7) **Identification of Future Agenda Items**

Commissioners included future agenda items in their discussion about their 2023 work plan. Future meetings: Presentation on greenhouse gas inventory, discussion of legislative priorities and sustainability indicators (May); Presentation on legislative priorities and federal funding sources (June); Solid Waste (July, August) Water conservation and turf (September, October); Presentation on the tourism and events strategic plan.

Adjournment 7:37 p.m.



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