



APPROVED 1/17/2024

SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES

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

5:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 13, 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 (attended virtually; left meeting at approximately 6:10 p.m.); Commission Members: Tony Coletta, Walter Cuculic, Ryan Johnson (arrived at 5:38 p.m.), Alisa McMahon (arrived at 5:38 p.m.), Andrew Scheck

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Conner, Manager, Office of Environmental Initiatives; Cindi Eberhardt, Planning & Development Area Director; Mary Witkofski, Community Services; Sam Brown, Office of Environmental Initiatives; Dave Bennett and Gina Azima, Solid Waste Services

PUBLIC COMMENT: One public comment. Two members of the public present.

1) Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for November 15, 2023

Commissioner Coletta made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2023, with Commissioner Cuculic providing a Second for the motion, which carried 5-0. All members present at the time voted for APPROVAL.

2) State Weatherization Program

Katie Martin, Administrator of Home Improvements and Community Services, Foundation for Senior Living (FSL), presented program data and status on the state weatherization program. She shared eligibility requirements, typical repairs (including air conditioner repair/replacement and installation of insulation and led light bulbs), and examples of how much money is saved by the upgrades. Mary Witkofski, Community Assistance Manager also shared information about Scottsdale's Green Rehabilitation program, which has similar programmatic elements but can do more extensive audits.

Commissioner Johnson requested the commission's permission to re-open the public comment period. Ms. Lyla Yango shared her support for Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) as an option for providing clean energy sources for Scottsdale residents and to request that there be a presentation on CCA at a future Commission meeting.

3) Scottsdale Solid Waste Program

Dave Bennett, Solid Waste Services Director, and Gina Azima, Community Service and Outreach Manager, shared updates and data on the city's efforts to manage and divert solid waste, including extensive education and outreach campaigns. Examples included city-related functions (Canal Convergence, awards and organizational events), the Old Town recycling pilot and alley refresh initiative, information on a green waste pilot project at McCormick Ranch and food waste diversion challenges. He also shared that the city has purchased its first electric trash truck, which should be operational by February, and that the transfer station will be expanded to include permanent household hazardous waste and green waste drop-off locations.

Commissioners shared appreciation for the efforts of the Solid Waste staff and discussed how bulk and brush waste is currently handled and ways to reduce food waste going to the landfill. Commissioner Scheck asked Mr. Bennett about the diversion goals set in the draft Sustainability Plan and the need to set more aggressive targets. Commissioner McMahon raised several questions related to the waste priority in the sustainability plan and was asked to share additional questions in writing as soon as possible.

4) Draft 2023 SEAC Annual Report and 2024 Meeting Schedule

Commissioners were asked to share any input on the 2023 SEAC Annual Report by December 31.

Chair Brady made a motion to approve the 2024 Meeting Schedule with the following rescheduled dates: May 22, June 12, and July 24, with Commissioner Cuculic providing a Second for the motion, which carried 6-0. All members present at the time voted for APPROVAL. Mr. Conner noted that the location of the January 17, 2024, meeting will be held at the Community Design Center.

5) Environmental Achievement Recognition Award

Commissioner Coletta shared information about possible ways to restart the Environmental Achievement Recognition Award program in 2024. Commissioners discussed eligibility requirements, timelines, and the selection process. Commissioner Coletta will compile a written proposal to be discussed at the January SEAC meeting.

6) Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission Annual Work Plan

Chair Brady briefly discussed the Annual Work Plan and the focus on the sustainability plan at the January and February meetings.

7) Start Time for Future Meetings

Commissioner Coletta made a motion for meetings to start at 4:30 p.m., with Commissioner Cuculic providing a Second for the motion. Commissioner Coletta withdrew his motion and subsequently made a motion for meetings to start at 5:00 p.m., with Commissioner Johnson providing a Second for the motion. Chair Brady and Commissioners McMahon and Scheck voted for DISAPPROVAL; Commissioners Coletta, Cuculic and Johnson voted for APPROVAL. The motion did not pass with all members present voting 3-3.

This agenda item was discussed at the same time as Item #4.

8) Staff Updates

Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, advised the commissioners on the process for Chair and Vice Chair nominations. He also recognized Sam Brown, Environmental Planner, who will be retiring in January 2024, for his 12 years of service to the city and to the Commission.

9) Identification of Future Agenda Items

Future meetings: Design with Nature and integrated pest management (January). Other topics: Scottsdale Parks and Recreation master plan / Indian Bend Wash master plan; water conservation and turf, discussion on possible updates to residential building and energy codes, presentation on the tourism and events strategic plan, tree inventory, urban forest updates, and an update on the Colorado River situation. See also 2024 Annual Work Plan.

Adjournment 7:50 p.m.



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