



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
PROTECT AND PRESERVE SCOTTSDALE TASK
FORCE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

4:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 8, 2023

**Community Design Studio
4506 E. Indian School Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Cynthia Wenstrom, Chair
Raoul Zubia, Vice Chair
Carla
James Eaneman
Nicholas Hartmann
Jace McKeighan
Daniel Schweiker
Mark Winkleman
John Zikias

STAFF: Gina Kirklin, Finance Director
Kimberly Campbell, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager
Bill Murphy, Assistant City Manager
Nick Molinari, Parks and Recreation Director
Sonia Andrews, City Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer
Kelly Corsette, Communications and Public Affairs Director
Kroy Ekblaw, Preserve Director
Carol Banegas Stankus, Senior Administrative Assistant, Treasurer's Office

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Staff and Task Force Members will introduce themselves.

Task Force Action: Information and discussion

City staff members and Task Force members introduced themselves.

2. APPROVE PROPOSED MEETING CALENDAR

Gina Kirklin, Finance Director, will present the dates, times, and locations of the planned Task Force meetings for the 2023 calendar year for discussion and approval by the Task Force.

Task Force Action: Information, discussion, and action

Gina Kirklin, Finance Director, reviewed the proposed meeting calendar and responded to questions from the Task Force members.

MEMBER ZUBIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED MEETING CALENDAR. MEMBER MCKEIGHAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED NINE (9) TO ZERO (0) WITH MEMBERS CARLA, EANEMAN, HARTMANN, MCKEIGHAN, SCHWEIKER, WENSTROM, WINKLEMAN, ZIKIAS AND ZUBIA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. ADOPT TASK FORCE BYLAWS

Gina Kirklin, Finance Director, and Kim Campbell, Senior Assistant City Attorney will present proposed bylaws for the Task Force to adopt as the rules and regulations for the Task Force.

Task Force Action: Information, discussion, and action

Kimberly Campbell, Senior Assistant City Attorney, provided a brief overview of the draft Protect and Preserve Task Force Bylaws and responded to questions from Task Force members.

MEMBER EANEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROTECT AND PRESERVE TASK FORCE BYLAWS AS PRESENTED. MEMBER SCHWEIKER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED NINE (9) TO ZERO (0) WITH MEMBERS CARLA, EANEMAN, HARTMANN, MCKEIGHAN, SCHWEIKER, WENSTROM, WINKLEMAN, ZIKIAS AND ZUBIA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

4. OVERVIEW OF PROTECT AND PRESERVE SCOTTSDALE TASK FORCE WORK PLAN

Sonia Andrews, City Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, with the assistance of other city staff, will review the City Council adopted work plan for the Task Force and discuss the information that will be provided by staff for each task. The Task Force may discuss and

provide direction to staff on requests for additional items or information that may help the Task Force carry out the work plan.

Task Force Action: Information and discussion

Sonia Andrews, City Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, led the discussion on this item.

Member Eaneman noted the short time frame for the development, distribution and analysis of the survey. Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager, provided an overview of city surveys and responded to questions from Task Force members.

Mr. Stockwell stated that the draft work plan has the survey as its first step, and it is advised that the Task Force have preliminary discussions on the type of information it would like to collect from the community. A National Community Survey has recently been completed and the results will be presented to City Council at its retreat on March 9, 2023. While the survey is not intended to address the purposes of the Preserve and Protect Scottsdale Task Force, it will provide a community perspective on quality of services. The City has conducted similar surveys since the 1980s and this information can be analyzed for changes in perception and other trends. The Task Force Work Plan would begin with learning about the community's unfunded needs, with a focus on methods and means of gathering input from the community. The City's survey vendor will assist in the development and collection of survey results.

Member Carla inquired about the selection of the survey vendor. Members Carla and Winkleman inquired about the process for City Council or Task Force approval of the survey. Mr. Stockwell discussed a recommended approach and approval process and, for the sake of expediency that the Task Force engage Polco, which is already engaged with the City on its National Community Survey. Polco has completed the random sample of the community and will be able to complete the project much quicker than a vendor who has yet to be engaged. Approval of a planned survey is typically considered an administrative action and approval is not required by City Council. In terms of the Task Force's survey, from staff's perspective, this would be an administrative task that the City Manager and administration will be working on with the City Manager. Staff will utilize the Task Force's advice and the professional survey researcher will formulate the survey questions.

Member Hartmann noted that a significant majority of visitors to the McDowell Sonoran Preserve are visitors and asked about the potential for capturing visitor opinions. Mr. Stockwell confirmed that this is possible, from an opt-in survey perspective.

Member Winkleman asked if the survey will be approved by the Task Force prior to distribution. Mr. Stockwell stated that the intent is for staff to work with the Task Force to frame the subjects, however, the Task Force will not be specifically approving the questions.

In response to questions from Member Zikias, Ms. Andrews confirmed that the Task Force will be provided with revenue projections, and Mr. Murphy explained that the ecological resource plan for the Preserve will not be completed prior to the completion of Task Force's work.

Mr. Stockwell explained that members are free to visit the City website at Scottsdaleaz.gov, and type in, "survey," or, "community survey," which links to information on both the current Community Survey and a history of past surveys. Visitor surveys are available under tourism.

Bill Murphy, Assistant City Manager, and Nick Molinari, Parks and Recreation Director, presented an overview of what information they plan to provide to the Task Force for Community Services and Parks and Recreation. Bill Murphy stated that in 2015, there was a master plan for Community Services through Parks and Recreation that provided varying levels of details for Bond 2000 and Bond 2019 projects. A master plan was completed for Indian Bend Wash, which consisted of El Dorado Park and Vista Del Camino. Much information was collected during the open houses conducted at the time specific to these park locations.

Mr. Molinari stated that the Parks and Recreation Department completed an 18-month strategic planning process last month, which was subsequently adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission. Polco was used as a survey tool in the collection of data for the strategic plan. Via the current fiscal year budget process, a master plan of Indian School Park was approved, and it is expected that there will be good feedback information to be provided to the Task Force. There are also plans for an updated Parks and Recreation system-wide master plan to include all elements of the Task Force focus. It is intended to present a holistic view of the needs, wants and changes of the City's park system.

In response to a question from Task Force Member Carla, Mr. Molinari stated that the approved master plans, strategic plans and survey data are available and can be provided to the Task Force.

In response to a question from Member Zubia, Mr. Molinari stated that the master plan elements beyond irrigation and lake improvements at Vista Del Camino and El Dorado were not approved as part of the 2019 Bond package.

Mr. Murphy provided a brief overview of the City's CIP process. Mr. Molinari added that Community Services submits CIP projects to be considered through the CIP budget on an annual basis. Staff plans to bring to the Task Force a list of CIP projects submitted annually but not funded. Understanding the scope of projects relative to the size of the park system, which essentially spans the entire City, would be a topic of discussion for the Task Force.

Member Zikias asked whether the intent is to continue to present CIP projects for City Council budget approval each year or whether all projects would be move to an unfunded status, to be funded via another potential process. Ms. Andrews stated that the CIP budget process will remain unchanged and provided a brief overview of the CIP process.

In response to a question from Member Hartmann, Mr. Murphy clarified that the Indian Bend Wash primarily consists of the area from McDonald Road to McKellips Road and some areas of the Indian Bend Wash from Shea Boulevard to Indian Bend Road are not City parks.

Kroy Ekblaw, Preserve Director, provided an overview of what information he planned to provide to the Task Force for the Preserve, noting that the Preserve Commission presented information to the City Council approximately a year ago regarding forecasting of long-term costs of managing approximately 30,000 acres of the Preserve. Staff will be working with the Preserve Commission to update the numbers and the information will be available to the Task Force. The focus has shifted from acquiring land for the Preserve to its long-term management. This includes invasive plant management, wildfire mitigation strategies, restoration plans and cultural resource protection.

Member Zikias asked whether education is being considered under unfunded needs. Mr. Ekblaw confirmed that the Preserve benefits from volunteer support, education and research elements, all-encompassing the goal of maintaining the health of the Preserve.

Ms. Andrews summarized that staff will provide the Task Force with information to help identify and quantify unfunded needs. Treasury staff will assist the Task Force in understanding the City's funding processes.

Member McKeighan asked whether the process will include open house or public sessions, where the community can give input on the Task Force's recommendations. Ms. Kirklin summarized that once the recommendation has been made, public outreach and education can begin. The survey will serve as the initial public outreach. As these are public meetings, community members are also free to attend and provide input during public comment periods.

Member Winkleman asked about the availability of projections on tax income in order to have a basis to analyze the unfunded needs. Ms. Andrews confirmed that staff will provide revenue and expenditure projections.

In response to a question from Member Carla regarding avenues for publicizing the availability of public participation and attendance at Task Force meetings, Kelly Corsette, Communications and Public Affairs Director, stated that the City reaches out to residents via a number of channels. This includes direct email, platforms such as Nextdoor, Facebook, Twitter and others.

5. TASK FORCE NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Task Force will receive self-nominations and consider additional nominations to serve as Chair and a Vice Chair. The Task Force will consider statements from nominees, discuss and elect a Chair and Vice Chair to take office immediately upon completion of nominations and voting, to serve in accordance with the adopted bylaws.

Task Force Action: Information, discussion, and action

One interest form for Chair was received from Member Wenstrom. Other nominations and/or self-nominations are also acceptable.

MEMBER MCKEIGHAN MOVED TO ELECT MEMBER WENSTROM AS CHAIR. MEMBER EANEMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED NINE (9) TO ZERO (0) WITH MEMBERS CARLA, EANEMAN, HARTMANN, MCKEIGHAN, SCHWEIKER, WENSTROM, WINKLEMAN, ZIKIAS AND ZUBIA VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Chair Wenstrom acknowledged self-nomination for Vice Chair submitted by Member Carla prior to the meeting. Member Zubia also submitted a self-nomination at the time of the meeting. Member Carla and Member Zubia briefly answered questions regarding their desire to serve as vice chair.

CHAIR ELECTION:

Self-nomination prior to the meeting of Member Wenstrom for Chair.

APPROVED: 9-0 motion by Member McKeighan, 2nd by Member Eaneman; Member Carla, Member Eaneman, Member Hartmann, Member McKeighan, Member Schweiker, Member

Wenstrom, Member Winkleman, Member Zikias, and Member Zubia voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes.

VICE CHAIR ELECTION:

Self-nomination prior to the meeting of Member Carla for Vice Chair. Self-nomination during the meeting of Member Zubia for Vice Chair. Motion by Member Zikias to elect Member Zubia as Vice Chair, 2nd by Member Schweiker. Alternate motion by Member Hartmann to elect Member Carla as Vice Chair, 2nd by Member McKeighan. The motion to elect Member Carla as Vice Chair failed by a vote of 6-3, with Member Eaneman, Member McKeighan, Member Schweiker, Member Winkleman, Member Zikias, and Member Zubia voting against the election, and Member Carla, Member Hartmann, and Member Wenstrom voting in the affirmative. The motion to elect Member Zubia as Vice Chair carried by a vote of 6-3, with Member Eaneman, Member McKeighan, Member Schweiker, Member Winkleman, Member Zikias, and Member Zubia voting in the affirmative; Member Carla, Member Hartmann, and Member Wenstrom, were dissenting votes.

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Member McKeighan and seconded by Member Eaneman, the meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

AYES: Chair Wenstrom, Vice Chair Zubia, Members Carla, Eaneman, Hartmann, McKeighan, Schweiker, Winkleman and Zikias.

NAYS: None

SUBMITTED BY:

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