



**City of Scottsdale**  
**McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission**  
Regular Meeting **MARKED AGENDA**

Thursday, February 1, 2024 – 5:00 p.m.  
Granite Reef Senior Center – Room 1  
1700 N. Granite Reef Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

*As a member of the Scottsdale community, I will genuinely listen; speak respectfully; and be accountable for my words and actions.*

[View Meeting Presentation](#)

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - 5:02 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT: Chairperson Laurie LaPat-Polasko (MS Teams), Vice-chair Marsha Lipps, Commissioners Steve Coluccio, Mark Hackbarth, Kerry Olsson, Jeffrey Smith, Savannah Engelking**

One or more members of the public body may be attending the meeting by telephone, video, or internet conferencing, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431(4)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Citizens may address the members of McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission during Public Comment. This “Public Comment” time is reserved for citizen comments regarding non-agendized items. Arizona State law prohibits McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission from discussing or taking action on an item that is not on the prepared agenda. Citizens may complete one Request to Speak “Public Comment” card per meeting and submit it to City Staff. Public testimony is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Written comment cards are being accepted for both agendized and non-agendized items and may be submitted to City Staff at any time. Cards submitted after public testimony has begun will be provided to the Public Body at the conclusion of the testimony for that item.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of – [November 2, 2023](#)

Commission Actions: Discussion and possible action

**APPROVED: as amended; 7-0 by roll call vote; Commissioner Coluccio motioned; 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Marsha Lipps, Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, Olsson, Smith, and Engelking voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes.**

**5. McDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY UPDATE**

Conservancy staff will update the Commission on recent activities and issues for the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

Commission Action: Information only

**6. REVIEW OF THE BYLAWS – [View Bylaws](#)**

The Commission will review the current By-Laws. Suggested changes, if any, can be made and brought before the Commission at the next regular meeting for approval. If no changes are recommended, the current By-Laws will remain as the governing rules for the Commission.

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible suggestions for changes - **no action taken**

**7. 2023 COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT – [View Annual Report](#)**

The Commission is required to submit an Annual Report to the City Council for activities, actions and other business during the preceding year. Staff has compiled the main points for Commission review. The Commission can recommend additions, deletions and corrections to the report and approve it for submittal.

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible action

**APPROVED: 7-0 by roll call vote; Commissioner Coluccio motioned; 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Marsha Lipps, Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, Olsson, Smith, and Engelking voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes.**

**8. PROTECT THE PRESERVE PROCESS UPDATE**

Staff will provide an update on the process to review costs and programs to protect the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, including but not limited to:

- Council and Task Force Process update

Commission Action: Information and Discussion and possible action - **no action taken**

**9. ONE TIME PRESERVE COSTS UPDATE**

Staff will provide a review of costs for possible future improvements to the McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Commission Action: Information and Discussion

## **10. ERP (ECOLOGICAL RESOURCE PLAN) UPDATE AND SCHEDULE**

Staff will provide an update for the upcoming process related to the ERP

Commission Action: Information and Discussion

## **11. STAFF REPORTS**

Staff will update the Commission on projects, activities, events, and other information relating to the Preserve.

- Rock Climbing Plan
- Browns Ranch Homestead Trail
- Wildland Fire Fuel Treatment Planning

Commission Action: Information and discussion

## **12. UPCOMING MEETING DATES, LOCATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

All Dates listed are Tentative and subject to amendment:

- Special Meeting – February 7
- Regular Meetings – March 7; April 4; May 2; June 6

Commission Action: Discuss the details for future meeting dates, times, and processes.

## **13. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

As per the By-Laws, the Commission will elect new officers at the first meeting of each calendar year. The Chair will be elected first then the Vice-chair and will assume duties immediately.

Commission Action: Discussion and possible action

**ELECTED CHAIR: Steve Coluccio; 7-0 by roll call vote; Vice-Chair Lipps made the nomination; 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Olsson; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Marsha Lipps, Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, Olsson, Smith, and Engelking voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes.**

**Chair Coluccio took his position immediately.**

**ELECTED VICE CHAIR: Kerry Olsson; 7-0 by roll call vote; Commissioner Engelking made the nomination; 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair Coluccio, Vice-Chair Marsha Lipps, Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, LaPat-Polasko, Olsson, Smith, and Engelking voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes.**

**Vice-Chair Olsson took his position immediately.**

#### **14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioners may provide information on items of interest to the Commission.

Commission Actions: Information and discussion

#### **15. ADJOURNMENT 6:47 p.m.**

Commission Actions: Motion to adjourn

**APPROVED: 7-0 by roll call vote; Commissioner Smith motioned; 2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair Coluccio, Vice-Chair Olsson, Commissioners Hackbarth, LaPat-Polasko, Lipps, Smith, and Engelking voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes.**

The Commission cannot discuss or vote on items not on the agenda, including items brought up as Commission or public comments. If action by the Commission is required, the item should be placed on the next meeting's agenda to be consistent with the Arizona Open Meetings Law.



Persons with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation, by contacting Administration at 480-312-2304. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance or as early as possible to arrange the accommodation. For TTY users, the Arizona Relay Service (1-800-367-8939) may contact Administration at 480-312-2304.