

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD**



**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008
CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY - GOLD ROOM
3839 N. DRINKWATER BLVD.
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA**

AMENDED SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES

- PRESENT:** Jim Mulloy, Chairman
Brian O'Donnell, Committee Member
Bill Sheaffer, Committee Member
Richard Stegeman, Committee Member
Keith Thompson, Committee Member
- ABSENT:** Jimmy Leung, Vice Chair
Dave Walker, Committee Member
- STAFF:** Chuck Skidmore, Energy Management Engineer
Victor Valliere, Planning and Development Services
- OTHERS:** James McCay, EQAB
Dave McDonald

Call to Order

Chair Mulloy called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m. A roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

- 1) Approval of Minutes

COMMITTEE MEMBER O'DONNELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2008 MEETING. COMMITTEE MEMBER SHEAFFER SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0).

2) Update on the current activities of the Office of Environmental Initiatives (OEI).

Chair Mulloy said EQAB had recently questioned whether the OEI was progressing quickly enough, and this topic was raised with Mr. Ellison. Mr. Ellison suggested that it would be possible to get more done once the elections had concluded. Chair Mulloy felt that a national search to fill the Director position was unnecessary since the City already has qualified candidates. Committee Member O'Donnell noted that Council did establish the OEI, and it does have an energy component. This should be regarded as progress. Chair Mulloy responded that the City has not adopted any policy, nor approved the five elements of the Energy Plan.

Mr. Valliere reported that the recruitment process for the Director and the Energy Management Coordinator positions would be announced in the next week. It could take up to two or three more months to complete the process. The Office has officially been formed, and the positions and the budget identified. The City took much time to develop the job descriptions, particularly for the Energy Management Coordinator. Committee Member O'Donnell said given the elections and the hiring of staff, it would be reasonable to expect that the Office would not be ready until the beginning of the new year at the earliest.

Committee Member Sheaffer noted that one of the key missing elements is the establishment of a tangible benchmark against which to measure progress. Mr. Skidmore added that the existing information is very crude. Out of the City's 240 facilities, only nine provide interval data every 15 minutes, while the rest rely on monthly utility bills. Since the information is not correlated in time along with building activities, it is difficult to determine what causes anomalies. APS has been providing the City with free data, but building information systems and sub-metering would be useful tools.

Chair Mulloy said the Energy Plan contains action items that address those issues. Once the OEI staff is fully in place, work can begin on that issue.

Committee Member Sheaffer noted that the utilities have been very accommodating. This might be a great opportunity to involve ASU's new College of Sustainability. It is difficult to get the money for these types of projects, but outside resources can be tapped. Once the data is quantified, it would be much easier to demonstrate the return on investment that an energy efficient building can provide. Chair Mulloy said there are many entities in the private sector that would be willing to help make these things happen, once the OEI is in place.

Mr. Skidmore said with such a small staff, it would be helpful for the City to either get automated systems in place, or contract with a private entity for data analysis. Committee Member O'Donnell noted that it would be easier for the OEI Director to get money approved if a payback could be demonstrated.

Mr. Valliere said the OEI has accomplished several things, despite very limited resources. These include alternative work schedules, quantifying the potential energy savings of a new computer system, the water bottle initiative, education of existing employees, and orientation of new employees. The Office is also working to reevaluate

the Sustainability Indicators Report, so it could be used to determine the effectiveness of the City's initiatives. Committee Member Sheaffer suggested the data in the report could also be used to offer recognition and foster a friendly competitive spirit among staff. Employees could compare their department's performance with others, and in this way be encouraged to maximize their efforts.

Committee Member Stegeman suggested the first step be to install sub-metering on a single representative building as a pilot project.

- 3) A general discussion on Greenhouse Gasses and Carbon Footprint calculations with the intent of better understanding possible means and methods, and implications of tracking GHG and CF. No official action is intended, though topics for further study may be identified.

Committee Member O'Donnell noted that the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision requiring the EPA to look at the greenhouse gases issue is being challenged on the basis that there is no reference for greenhouse gas standards. Opponents are saying that temperatures are decreasing because of sunspots, even though carbon dioxide is increasing. They argue that the U.S. is the second largest reducer of greenhouse gases in the world. A new EPA administrator will likely change everything, but the EPA could rule that greenhouse gases are not pollutants. Committee Member Sheaffer said particulate matter could be quantified.

In response to Committee Member Stegeman, Committee Member O'Donnell said scientists are speculating that average air temperatures have not increased over the past few years because of the decreasing amount of sunspots. The last time they diminished in frequency, the earth experienced a 150-year cooling trend. This complicates the process of measuring the effects of greenhouse gases.

Chair Mulloy said the Energy Plan was largely sold on the notion of fiscal responsibility, and avoided the topic of global climate change. Committee Member Sheaffer suggested it would be best to concentrate on the known toxins that the energy plan identifies, because they can be quantified.

Mr. Skidmore questioned the general wisdom of putting more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. It is not known what an increased amount of CO² would do to the percentage of oxygen in the atmosphere, and what effect it would have on organisms of all types that are used to approximately 21% oxygen. If CO² is causing global warming, and the effects are being nullified by the absence of sunspots, does it justify making more CO²?

Committee Member Sheaffer said that if the argument hangs on CO², it might as well hang on known toxins, because it exists in the same ratio. More particulate matter in the atmosphere would not be a good idea.

Chair Mulloy said the Committee is one of the few in Scottsdale that deals strictly in science. The City will have to address these issues at some point, and the Committee's input will be quite relevant.

Committee Member O'Donnell noted that the Governor implemented all the measures recommended by the Arizona Climate Change Action Committee that that did not require legislative action. She tried to implement some of the remaining ones during the last session, but that bill died in the Senate. The Committee's emission reduction plan was used in the Western Climate Initiative (WCI).

Chair Mulloy requested Committee Member O'Donnell provide an overview of the WCI at a future meeting.

4) General announcements by attendees.

Mr. Skidmore announced that the next meeting would be held at the new Fire Station. The Committee agreed to schedule the monthly meetings on either the third or fourth Thursdays of each month.

Mr. McCay said the Green Summit event is looking for volunteers. Committee Member Sheaffer reported that the Hydrogen Tour had a three-hour stopover in Phoenix. The Committee discussed the results of the recent Corporation Commission election.

Public Comment

Mr. McDonald referred the Committee to Deutsche Bank's report on plug-in electric vehicles, which could be found at <http://gm.db.com>. He said the report provides much insight into the global status of related current and near future technologies.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V-Tronics, Inc.