



**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
GRANITE REEF SENIOR CENTER
1700 N. GRANITE REEF ROAD, ROOM 10
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009**

SUMMARIZED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Jimmy Leung, Chair
Bill Gill, Vice Chair (present from 5:34 p.m. to 6:41 p.m.)
Lisa Cavera, Board Member
Nancy Basinger, Board Member
Thomas Dwyer, Board Member
Ron Hand, Board Member (arrived at 5:37 p.m.)
James McCay, Board Member

STAFF: Larry Person, Environmental Coordinator
Chuck Skidmore, Energy Management Engineer
Dan Worth, General Manager, Municipal Services
Connie Padian, Planning and Development Services
Andrew Kocisky, Office of Environmental Initiatives
Erica Bruno, Communications and Customer Relations Manager
Joey Miller, Office of Environmental Initiatives

GUEST: Jay Spector

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Leung called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum. Chair Leung read a quote from Sen. Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day.

Public Comment

None.

1). **Approval of Minutes**

- a) March 18, 2009 Regular Meeting

BOARD MEMBER MCCAY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 18, 2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. BOARD MEMBER DWYER SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE CHAIR GILL AND BOARD MEMBER HAND WERE NOT YET PRESENT.

2). **Appreciation presentation to outgoing EQAB Member Ron Hand**

Chair Leung presented Board Member Hand with a certificate and a gift in appreciation of his six years of service to the Board. Board Member Hand recounted the progress that Scottsdale has made over the years, and said he looks forward to what the City accomplishes in the future. Mr. Person described Board Member Hand's co-authoring of the Home Remodeling Guidelines and other documents from the Green Building Program as being among the most significant contributions made by a citizen volunteer.

3). **Administrative Report**

- OEI Office update

Ms. Padian reviewed the City's new organizational model that is being proposed in conjunction with the FY09/10 budget. Sixteen current City departments are being consolidated into eight divisions. The Office of Environmental Initiatives (OEI) will be part of the Advanced Planning Department, which will be part of the Planning and Development Services Division. Staffing for the OEI has not been fully resolved yet. The Director of the OEI will be filled through an internal reappointment. The Energy Management Coordinator position will be transferred the Public Works and Water Resources Division, which is the City's largest energy consumer. An executive team will also be assembled to look at energy proposals for the entire City.

- Potential City projects for the Energy Stimulus Package
- Briefing on energy related items currently underway at the City of Scottsdale

Ms. Padian reported that the City has come up with a program to address the funding that is being made available through the Federal Stimulus Package. Council has requested a list of options from which they would select the items they want to pursue. EQAB will have an opportunity to review that list and make a recommendation for Council.

Board Member Basinger inquired whether Council has given any indication as to what their priorities are. Mr. Worth responded that there are rules associated with the stimulus program in general that set limits on how the money can be spent. One of the major goals of the program is to create jobs in a timely manner. Additionally, each individual grant program has its own set of rules. Council has also established a set of priorities on how they want to handle the stimulus money. He said some Council Members do not support the idea of the stimulus package, but the Mayor has argued that if Scottsdale does not spend it, somebody else will, and if jobs are being created, he

would prefer that they be local. Mr. Worth said Council is keeping in mind the impact that the one-time funding would have on the rest of the City's programs. They want to avoid taking on something that will incur costs in the future. Council also prefers options that would offset spending that would have come from the General Fund, rather than from existing funds. For instance, they authorized applying for a grant in a diesel emissions reduction program, for CNG equipment the City was planning to buy anyway as part of an existing initiative.

Ms. Padian said the City is collecting ideas throughout the organization. Since the grant applications are due the third week in June, she suggested EQAB hold a special meeting in early May to review the items and come up with a recommendation. The ideas include converting streetlights to LED technology, new pumps at the Water Campus, training for building inspectors, and conducting energy audits.

Board Member Basinger inquired whether EQAB would have an opportunity to provide ideas before the meeting. Ms. Padian welcomed submissions from the Board, but noted that all proposals would be checked against the City's criteria. She clarified that this process is only being used for the \$2.4 million in formula money that Scottsdale is set to receive already. More money will be available in the future for competitive grants, but those program details have not been set yet.

In response to an inquiry from Board Member Basinger, Mr. Worth said staff intends to review all the recommendations on April 30. The report for the May 19 Council presentation would need to be finished by May 12. Chair Leung said that EQAB could be involved in generating ideas for the list, but felt it would be more appropriate for EQAB to rank the list that staff generates. Board Member McCay asked whether the public is invited to submit ideas. Mr. Worth responded that the Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program was actually approved two years ago, but was not funded until now. There is the possibility that the program could turn into a recurring one, and it would make sense to maintain a list of good ideas to pursue in future years.

Board Member Hand said codes and ordinances are long-term policy elements. Much work has been done to raise energy codes nationally, but that has not come to fruition in Scottsdale because they have never been brought before Council. It would be quicker to mix and match them since they are ready to be used now, instead of coming up with something entirely new. Board Member McCay said the contents of the Energy Plan update of 2007 could be used to meet the Federal government's energy efficiency strategy. This would prove that Scottsdale has a strategy for spending the money the way the Federal government wants it spent.

The Commission agreed to set a meeting on either May 6 or 7 to review the list of staff recommendations.

- Gauge EQAB interest in volunteering for environmental events

Ms. Bruno noted that the International GreenBuild Conference would be held in Phoenix later this year. Scottsdale is planning tours, educational opportunities, and other events in conjunction with GreenBuild. She is assembling a list of people who would be interested in volunteering for these and other environmental events on an ongoing basis. There are many roles available to suit a variety of interests.

4). **Staff presentation of architectural design standards as they relate to a possible EQAB recommendation regarding expansion of the Green Building Program**

Chair Leung tabled this item, because Mr. Venker was unable to attend.

5). **Communication to Council regarding energy efficiency and/or alternative energy project funding the City might pursue in the Federal Stimulus Package**

Chair Leung noted that the Energy Advisory Committee tasked Board Member Dwyer with preparing a letter to Council urging them to consider using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) as seed money for projects that will improve energy efficiency in Scottsdale. Since the Board did not have an opportunity to approve the draft of that letter, Chair Leung said he read it to Council as a public comment, with the understanding that EQAB would formally approve it and send it as an official document. Chair Leung read the statement.

BOARD MEMBER DWYER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OF EQAB TO SEND THE LETTER TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE BOARD. BOARD MEMBER BASINGER SECONDED.

Mr. Person noted that the letter contained a piece of outdated information. The Energy Coordinator position will be an internal reappointment, and the responsibilities may even reside with several people, rather than just one person, whereas the letter implied that someone new would be hired. Board Member Dwyer explained that he was calling for the budget to include a position responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring energy savings for all department and facilities. He noted that in conversations with John Little, EQAB made it clear that rather than a collection of people who care about energy, it would be necessary to have someone with the authority and the responsibility to handle energy issues. Ms. Padian responded that in the new organizational structure, someone would be responsible for management coordination, while an executive team would brainstorm ideas. This team would consist of people who are most affected by, have the most knowledge of their systems, and would certainly have authority to act. Board Member Basinger felt that this arrangement was consistent with the Board's objective.

Board Member Hand expressed concern about making claims that the City would save a specific amount of money without factual backing. Unless the numbers are going to be clearly defined, it would be preferable to say that the City could realize significant savings. Chair Leung proposed a new opening sentence.

BOARD MEMBER DWYER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OF EQAB TO SEND THE LETTER AS AMENDED TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE BOARD. BOARD MEMBER BASINGER SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FIVE (5) TO ONE (1), WITH BOARD MEMBER HAND DISSENTING. VICE CHAIR GILL WAS NOT PRESENT.

6). **Discussion on possible EQAB assistance to City Manager John Little in developing contacts that may result in coordinated efforts between the public and private sectors to address environmental concerns. (S.R.C. Chp. 2; Art. V; Div. 8; Sec. 2-303)**

Chair Leung said the City of Scottsdale seems to have grown more receptive lately to the idea of entering into public/private partnerships as alternative sources of funding for environmental programs. EQAB's charter specifically tasks the Board with assisting staff with developing opportunities for public/private partnerships. He invited the Board to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of these types of arrangements.

Board Member Basinger asked whether Scottsdale's past reluctance was due to preferences of the leadership, or whether there are legal restrictions. Ms. Padian responded by noting that the current Downtown Plan specifically talks about these kinds of arrangements. Board Member Basinger felt that in order for a municipality to enter into a partnership with a for-profit company, the government would have to be comfortable that the benefits far outweigh any disadvantages. She felt it would be a waste of time to work on this if the City was going to object. Chair Leung said he senses that the City is at least receptive to the idea. Board Member Dwyer added that the EAC sees power purchasing agreements as good opportunities for public/private partnerships. They would save the City substantial upfront costs associated with installing energy efficiency systems. Board Member McCay said he thinks such arrangements are the future of all municipal energy policies. Chair Leung tasked the GBAC and the EAC with discussing ideas for public/private partnerships.

7). **Standing committee reports**

- Green Building Advisory Committee (GBAC)
 - GBAC's Revised Strategic Goals
 - GBAC's retreat agenda items and actions

Board Member Basinger reported on the recent GBAC retreat. The Committee produced documents describing concepts for their vision, challenges and opportunities, and a list of objectives and strategies. She said the list of objectives still needs to be refined and prioritized, but they can be categorized into four groups:

1. Education and communication
2. Incentives
3. Policy
4. Scottsdale's leadership in green building

Board Member Basinger said once the documents have been refined, she would present them to EQAB to obtain feedback, before more work is done on any of the proposals.

- Energy Advisory Committee (EAC)
 - EAC's recent meeting agenda items and actions

Board Member Dwyer said the Committee failed to get a quorum. The group intends to meet with SRP, APS and the Water Department to discuss the City's energy use. EAC may switch its meetings from Wednesday to Thursday to better accommodate members' schedules.

8). **Board Member suggestions for future agenda items**

Board Member McCay asked why Councilman Littlefield requested a Council report from a water committee, even though EQAB just disbanded the Water Advisory Committee (WAC). Ms. Padian surmised that Councilman Littlefield could have been referring to a specially appointed task force assembled in relation to the City's acquisition of a water company. Board Member Cavera said Scottsdale has storm water runoff issues that should be looked into at some point. In response to an inquiry from Board Member Basinger, Mr. Person said the Water Advisory Committee was initially established as a resource for both Water Resources Department and the City's Storm Water Unit. Ms. Padian said staff is prepared to provide the Board with whatever information is needed to address issues such as storm water runoff. She encouraged the Board to address the concerns directly, rather than rely on a task force. Chair Leung agreed.

Board Member Hand said the WAC mainly looked at water from a supply and conservation perspective, but water runoff and treatment is an enormously complicated and technical issue. He felt the Board would benefit from having a greater understanding of how the water system works in Scottsdale. Board Member Dwyer felt that EQAB would also benefit from educational sessions on air quality, and waste management/recycling.

Chair Leung said the Mayor and Council want to see the Boards and Commissions be more task-oriented. They are eventually going to want to know what the Board is working on and how that fits into their agenda. He proposed refreshing the Board's work plan. Board Member Dwyer agreed that several unforeseen issues have come up since the work plan was originally put together. Board Member Basinger added that the work plan should never be perceived as a static document.

Chair Leung suggested that the Board continue to include Councilman Nelssen's Sonoran architectural design overlay issue as a regular agenda item. Board Member Basinger said the last time Councilman Nelssen mentioned the topic, he specifically said that he wanted to know what the City could require from someone who requests a variance. That notion seems more limited in scope than the initial concept. Chair Leung said EQAB must be prepared with an answer in any case. Board Member Dwyer noted that when Council first raised the idea, EQAB was asked to work on it. Now it seems to have become more of a Planning and Development Services issue. He felt the Board should work with the Planning staff to pull all the information together, and make a recommendation before it goes back to Council.

Mr. Person noted that staff has requested an agenda item to provide an update on planning unit developments (PUD). Ms. Padian said EQAB is also expected to help with

the energy element of the General Plan update for 2011. Chair Leung inquired whether there would be an OEI update next month. Ms. Padian said there might be some specific information to report by then.

Chair Leung asked whether Board wanted to have two meetings next month, or to try and fit the discussion on the stimulus package into a regular meeting. The Board preferred to have separate meetings, including a regular meeting on May 20, and a special meeting on either May 6 or 7.

9). **Updates and Reminders**

Chair Leung noted that the Cactus Road cleanup event is on April 25.

Mr. Person announced that May 4 is the grand opening of the Gateway at the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. He also noted that the City's Board and Commission reception is on June 11.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.