



**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
GRANITE REEF SENIOR CENTER
1700 N. GRANITE REEF RD., RM. 8
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008**

SUMMARIZED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Brian Munson, Chair
Michele Cohen, Vice Chair
Bill Gill, Board Member
Jimmy Leung, Board Member
James McCay, Board Member
James Mulloy, Board Member

ABSENT: Ron Hand, Board Member

STAFF: Larry Person, Environmental Coordinator
Chuck Skidmore, Energy Management Engineer
Dennis Enriquez, GBAC Staff Liaison
Andrew Kocisky, Environmental Technician
Anthony Floyd, Green Building Manager
Connie Padian, Chief Planning Officer
Vic Valliere

ALSO: Joan Baron, GBAC
Beverly Westgaard, GBAC

Call to Order

Chair Munson called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

Roll Call

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

Public Comment

None.

1). **Approval of Minutes**

- December 20, 2008 Regular Meeting

BOARD MEMBER LEUNG MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 20, 2007 REGULAR MEETING. BOARD MEMBER MCCAY SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

2). **Air Quality**

- Update and discussion on the five ordinance requirements in SB 1552, the city public involvement process and possible EQAB roles.

Ms. Padian reported that the City Council approved the zoning amendments as written. Council could have opted to begin enforcement immediately, but instead chose to delay the beginning of the enforcement period to allow for additional public outreach. The process will be a stepped one. Leaf blower and off-road restrictions would be applied immediately, commercial properties would be required to comply by October 2008, and residential properties by October 2009.

- Discussion and possible action to forward recommendations to Council on City response to new air quality regulations under SB 1552 and Maricopa County Air Quality rules 310 and 310.01.

Ms. Padian said the outreach effort is not fully completed yet. There are continuing discussions about broadcasting information on Channel 11, and conducting specific outreach in the northern area. The code inspectors will explain the issues before issuing citations, and proactively address problems that they spot.

Vice Chair Cohen said people need a hotline to call whenever they see a problem, similar to what the County has. Mr. Person said the County operators would forward calls pertaining to the five ordinances to the City. The County is responsible for everything, including the five ordinances the City Council passed, but the City is supposed to help the County enforce them. The County has more authority than the cities were authorized under the State law.

Ms. Padian said there are more than five issues that will affect businesses and residences from this Senate Bill. The City has to comprehensively talk to people about the issues and what they can do about them, so they are not surprised by a County citation.

Vice Chair Cohen requested an update on this issue be added as an agenda item.

3). **Energy Plan 2007 Update and Discussion**

- Update, Discussion and Possible Action supporting a staff proposal related to implementing EQAB's energy plan recommendations.

Mr. Valliere updated his study of the feasibility of an Energy Office as recommended in the first action item of the Energy Plan Update. He established four goals for the study:

- Any changes should have a positive impact on present and future Scottsdale.
- Result in a net-zero cost effect on the proposed FY08/09 budget.
- Avoid creating an additional layer of bureaucracy.
- The recommendation must unite all stakeholders' interest for the good of the community.

In FY06/07 the total energy costs for the City of Scottsdale were \$17.7 million, including electricity, natural gas and fuel. If education alone were to realize a 1% to 3% energy savings, it would result in substantial savings. He determined that some type of cohesive advantage would come from uniting the City's efforts into one focused group.

Two different approaches are used by municipalities, a centralized approach and a decentralized one. Portland, Oregon and Tucson use a centralized approach. Phoenix, Tempe, Gilbert, Mesa and Chandler use a decentralized effort, similar to what Scottsdale is using now. These cities have largely modeled their efforts after Scottsdale's.

Mr. Valliere said the analysis he conducted supports EQAB's recommendation to create an Energy Office. The structure the office could take has not been determined yet. Its primary focus would be to operate on a strategic level and assist City leaders in creating a consistent approach to environmental sustainability. He said the proposal needs more work, and his presentation to Council may be pushed back to June.

Ms. Padian added that the Planning and Development Services Department would present their budget on April 17 during a work-study session. On subsequent nights there will be public comment opportunities, before the Council makes a decision in June.

In response to Board Member Leung, Ms. Padian responded that currently the plan is to have the Energy Office as part of the Planning Department. Converting existing positions and eliminating vacant ones would achieve the zero-sum cost effect.

Board Member Leung inquired how the office would be positioned so as not to create an added level of bureaucracy. Mr. Valliere responded that the benefit is that the office would speed up the process and cut through red tape.

4). **Water 101 Presentation by the Water Resources Department**

- Presentation and Discussion on the basic water outreach program to citizens.

Chair Munson said the presentation would be given next month.

5). **EQAB 2008/2009 Work Plan and Strategy Discussion**

Chair Munson noted that EQAB is currently operating under the 2008/2009 work plan, and at some point it will have to be reviewed.

Vice Chair Cohen suggested a discussion on the validity and usefulness of the Sustainability Indicators Report. She also requested a discussion on how to best advance sustainability in the broader sense. EQAB's goals are progressing well, but it would be good to dedicate some time to projecting into the future. Chair Munson said a retreat would also provide the opportunity to reflect on what has been done, and to think outside the box.

Board Member Leung suggested waiting until after a decision is made on the Energy Office, since that could change so much about how EQAB would do things.

6). **EnviroKids Fest Update and Discussion**

Mr. Person noted that the last EnviroKids Fest happened in April 2006. The 2007 event was plagued by scheduling conflicts and human resource allocation problems. April continues to be the month for AIMS testing of fourth graders who are the event's target audience. No event has been planned for 2008.

The Energy Office could revive the EnviroKids Fest as part of its outreach and education responsibilities. In the meantime, Mr. Person suggested that the money earmarked for the Fest could be used to hire a nationally touring magician who does a recycling themed magic show. The Solid Waste Department proposed the idea to the City and recommended his show.

Board Member Leung said April Earth Month would likely always present scheduling problems, and proposed that one of the retreat topics be whether there is a better way to achieve the Fest's education goals.

Mr. Person said the EnviroKids fest was praised by teachers as being more substantive than any of their other field trips. However, the schools are so focused on testing that it was difficult to fill the event last time. Board Member Mulloy suggested polling the teachers to find a better time to hold the Fest.

Board Member McCay suggested that Scottsdale tap into community resources such as the Arizona Foundation for Resource Education and the Arizona Association for Environmental Education. These groups could potentially provide staff and volunteers to help organize the event.

Vice Chair Cohen said the event should not be allowed to lapse two years in a row. She suggested making something available on DVD for schools to use at their convenience. The EnviroKids Fest is a fabulous event, but it takes a lot of people to make it work.

Ms. Baron suggested the Education Subcommittee of the GBAC take up the issue.

Board Member Leung said EQAB's goal is to educate and conduct public outreach. The EnviroKids Fest is one possibility, but EQAB's thinking should not be limited to just that possibility.

7). **Adopt-a-Road Litter Pick-Up Project Saturday, April 19.**

Chair Munson noted that a road litter pick-up day has been scheduled for April 19. EQAB has adopted a two-mile stretch of Cactus Road, east of the 101. He encouraged the Board Members to volunteer their time to the project.

8). **Sustainable Built Environment Strategic Goals Discussion and possible action**

Vice Chair Cohen said the GBAC prepared a document recommending how the City could move towards the strategic goal of having all municipal, commercial and residential buildings in Scottsdale built to recognized green building standards. Municipal buildings already use the standard, but the rest are voluntary. It would be up to staff to decide which of the recommendations in the document to do first. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented.

Recommendations are divided into six areas, the first being educational guidance.

- Update the green building remodeling guidelines booklet.
- Develop a procedure to formalize awareness of green building options as a required step at the beginning of the development review process for all new and remodeled buildings and other development projects, commercial and residential.
- Place more attention on educating the architecture, design and engineering communities.

In response to Board Member Mulloy, Mr. Floyd said the current process to draw developers' attention to green building options during the planning stages is haphazard.

Ms. Baron suggested that applicants meet with staff to learn about green building options. Mr. Person cautioned about any recommendation that focused the burden on staff to educate people about what could be green. The City wants to avoid adding more bureaucracy and placing a greater burden on staff time by adding another requirement. The recommendations should be a lot more streamlined and efficient in achieving the desired goal.

Vice Chair Cohen said the point of the second bullet point is to somehow take advantage of the opportunity to educate people who are interested in building something, and help

them learn about green buildings so they can plan early and incorporate features that would not result in any cost differential for them.

Board Member McCay said the second point should focus on stating the vision instead of the solution. The recommendation should read simply, "It would be to the benefit of Scottsdale's residents to develop a procedure to formalize the awareness of green building options as a required step in the development process." The rest gets down to the details that could become contentious. Mr. Person added that the situation changes and procedures change regularly, making it difficult to set something in advance.

Vice Chair Cohen summarized the second set of recommendations regarding voluntary participation measures.

- Increase the participation of builders and developers.
 - Single-family and multi-family green building program.
 - Increase participation in the commercial green building through enhanced incentives and recognizing leadership.

Existing incentives will not be enough in the future. A dialogue is needed to determine which incentives or disincentives would best encourage more voluntary participation.

Vice Chair Cohen discussed recommendations for Scottsdale ordinance changes.

- Update planning and zoning regulations and tolls to facilitate sustainable communities, addressing design and growth guidelines to encourage integrated transportation, commercial, and residential development.

Mr. Person suggested that a better approach might be to go through the General Plan process to instill the vision of an integrated sustainable community. Policies are defined in the General Plan. Ordinances, codes and design standards are the enactment of the policies. If new policies were introduced to the system, they would have to go through the General Plan process.

Chair Munson said the focus of the document seems to vary widely from one bullet point to the next. The goals are all important, but while some of the points could go ahead now as recommendations, others are so broad that they would take an enormous amount of work to realize.

Vice Chair Cohen responded that the document is intended as an overview of where the city needs to go to move forward in green building. Citizens are complaining the city is not being integrated in a sustainable way. EQAB needs to discuss whether to pick out one or two points to pursue, or recommend that the City develop an overarching green building plan.

In response to Chair Munson, Vice Chair Cohen said she was asking for EQAB's broad endorsement of the document to be developed into more goal-oriented resolutions. How does the city reach the goal of having every building green?

Mr. Floyd noted that national standards are being introduced later this year, and some municipalities are considering adopting them. That is something tangible. If Scottsdale were to adopt the standard, then that would become the City's policy.

Board Member Leung said EQAB's role is not to tell City Council how to do things, but to offer advice on what direction they should go. Having thirty percent of new buildings being green is good result, but 100% would be better.

Chair Munson said EQAB first should understand more about the City process and find out where those points of entry might be, then develop the materials that will help expedite that goal. The recommendation to change zoning regulations and tools could take a career to realize.

Chair Munson asked the Board to consider which two or three of the items would have the biggest impact right now.

Ms. Westgaard said the document was created to raise consciousness and to focus on what needs to happen to build a sustainable community. Some of the recommendations have been realized already. The retreat could spend some time to note which have been completed and which EQAB might want to work on.

Board Member Gill suggested the document be condensed and prioritized, that concrete recommendations be separated from the goals, and the short-term goals separated from those that would take more time.

Board Member Leung felt it would be more powerful to simply state that all new buildings in Scottsdale should be green buildings. The repetition dilutes the impact.

Mr. Person said the scope has to be understood. The Energy Plan Update had 20 recommendations in it, but City Council assigned staff to work on one of them. The document should serve as an ideal, but it is unrealistic to expect that 100% of buildings would be green. In order for that to happen, the program would have to be mandatory, and there are no signs that the political will exists to allow that. Every bullet point in the document could take a career to realize. It would be better to think of incremental steps the City could take to move in that direction. He felt it would be counterproductive for EQAB to make so many unrealistic recommendations to Council and it would result in the Board losing credibility.

Board Member Leung said EQAB is not effective at providing options; EQAB is effective at defining vision and values. It should set the goals and let the City figure out how to accomplish them.

Mr. Person explained that EQAB's role is to advise Council. The Energy Office would initiate policy and ask EQAB for input as they are doing their deliberations. EQAB cannot short-circuit the process by telling staff what projects to do. There is a distinction to make between an acceptable process, and one that is not.

Mr. Skidmore suggested a statement be made during the annual report to Council saying that "EQAB envisions Scottsdale as a community where all new buildings are built to the highest possible energy environmental standards. EQAB is offering to partner with the energy office to help discover the ways to do that incrementally."

Mr. Skidmore said EQAB would always need to work to ensure that the energy office does not lose sight of the big picture.

The Board discussed how to officially respond to the document. Board Member Leung said while he was okay with the policy vision, he could not endorse a document that has so much he does not understand.

Board Member McCay said once the energy office is formed, the document could be presented to them and they can decide which parts they want to work on.

Chair Munson said there is merit in at least thinking about an action item to tweak the LEED policy.

Vice Chair Cohen said someone would need to develop a Council action report to say the LEED policy needs to be amended. Board Member McCay said such a thing would not realistically happen until the energy office was established.

Vice Chair Cohen suggested working on acquiring performance data to determine how effective the green buildings are at doing what they were promised to do. Mr. Person said the new environmental office would hopefully want to audit all the buildings and provide feedback to Council. It would be appropriate to wait.

Chair Munson thanked the GBAC for their work on the document. He suggested revising it and presenting it to Frank Gray for his advice on the best course of action to take. Mr. Enriquez added that Mr. Gray was always looking for new ideas on how to improve the process.

9). **Standing Committee Reports**

- Green Building Advisory Committee
 - Update and discussion of the GBAC March 11, 2008 meeting agenda items and actions.

Board Member McCay said that Rick Heffernon of the Morrison Institute provided a presentation on their sustainability report. There was also a discussion about how green building statistics could be rolled into the Sustainability Indicators Report.

He reported that a demonstration solar install project at Desert Mountain High School was tabled because the intergovernmental agreement between the City and the Scottsdale Unified School District became too complicated for such a small project.

Other discussions focused on making the lectures series available online, and a mentoring program for City staff.

- Discussion and possible vote on the future organization of the Green Building Expo.

Board Member McCay reported that the Green Building Expo would be broken off as an independent non-profit entity. Mr. Enriquez added that the City Attorney's Office has determined that the decision to dissolve the Green Building Expo Planning Committee rests with the GBAC.

- Water Advisory Committee
 - Update and discussion on the Water Resources Department's assured water supply application.

Board Member Gill said the application is still waiting in DWR.

- Update, discussion and possible action for a recommendation to Council on downtown storm drain issues.

He reported that staff provided no update on the storm drain issues.

- Update and discussion on the water conservation rebates.

Rebates are still being issued but the numbers are tapering off.

- Update and discussion of the WAC March 5, 2008 meeting agenda items and actions.

Board Member Gill said the City Council asked the Water Department about the feasibility of either working with the Arizona American Water Company to ensure that safe drinking water is available for its Scottsdale residents, or acquiring a portion or all of the company. Many issues would have to be resolved if the City was to purchase the company.

He reported that Council adopted water and wastewater master plans on March 4.

- Energy Advisory Committee
 - Update and discussion on working groups preparing background information for staff implementation of the Energy Plan 2007 Update.

Vice Chair Cohen said there was a brief presentation on Sustainable Energy Education and Communications (SEEC,) an online employee education program. Mr. Skidmore added that one of the five policy measures in the Energy Plan Update is education and outreach, starting with City personnel. Products exist to make that happen.

- Update and discussion on the case study for the Granite Reef Senior Center energy performance audit.

Mr. Skidmore said there would not be an EAC meeting in April, though work will continue on the case study.

- o Update and discussion of EAC March 5, 2008 meeting agenda items and actions.

The Omnibus Energy Bill has run into problems.

10). **Presentation, discussion and possible recommendation to Council supporting the Water Resources Department's Reclaimed Water/Salinity Agreement with the City's golf Courses.**

Board Member Gill said the golf course group has proposed additional terms to the agreement with the City. Council is still expected to consider the agreement on April 1.

11). **Updates and Reminders**

- a) Board Member suggestions for environmental topics on future agendas.
- b) Upcoming events.
 - Solar Series Lecture - March 20, 2008
 - Green Building Lecture - April 3, 2008
 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day - April 5, 2008
 - EQAB Meeting - April 16, 2008
 - Trash Pickup Day on Cactus Road - April 19, 2008
 - Electronic Recycling Collection Day - May 3, 2008

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A/V-Tronics, Inc.