SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES*
City of Scottsdale
Environmental Quality Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
5:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 12, 2018
One Civic Center, Community Development Conference Rooms
7447 E Indian School Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Natalie Chrisman Lazarr, Board Member
Tammy Bosse, Board Member
Anthony Coletta, Board Member
David Abranovic, Board Member

ABSENT: Steven Schlosser Vice-Chair
Arnold Siegel, Board Member
Ryan Johnson, Board Member

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Conner, Office of Environmental Initiatives
Sam Brown, Office of Environmental Initiatives
Anthony Floyd, Office of Environmental Initiatives

Call to Order:
Tim Conner called the regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB) to order at 5:42 p.m.

Roll Call:
A formal roll call took place confirming the members present as stated above.

Public Comment:
Two citizens were present, no public comment was received

* Note: These are summary action listings only. A complete copy of the meeting’s audio is available on the Environmental Quality Advisory Board web page located at Scottsdaleaz.gov, search “Environmental Quality Advisory Board”
1. **Elect Acting Chair** - for this meeting & start of Jan 23, 2019 meeting

   **MOTION AND VOTE – ITEM # 1**

   Board Member Abranovic provided a motion to elect Board Member: Bosse as Acting Chair, Board Member Chrisman Lazarr provided a second for the motion; **MOTION APPROVED 4-0**

   Board Member Bosse – Yes
   Board Member Coletta – Yes
   Board Member Chrisman Lazarr – Yes
   Board Member Abranovic – Yes

2. **Administrative Report:** – Discussion

   - Updates and opportunities  -  Conner
   - Announcement of new Board member, Ryan Johnson  -  Conner
   - Ethics Refresher & Personal Interest Disclosure Forms  -  Conner
   - Mayor’s request for EQAB’s participation in 50th anniversary of Earth Day 2020- Board Member Coletta expressed interest to work on this item in the future
   - Green Building Lecture -  Floyd
   - E-Charging Stations -  Floyd

3. **Approval of Summarized Meeting Minutes for 10/17/18 and 11/14/18 regular meetings** - Possible action

   **MOTION AND VOTE – ITEM # 3**

   Board Member Abranovic provided a motion to approve the October 17, 2018 and November 14, 2018 EQAB Regular Meeting Summarized Meeting Minutes as submitted, Board Member Coletta provided a second for the motion; **MOTION APPROVED 4 – 0**

   Acting Chair Bosse – Yes
   Board Member Coletta – Yes
   Board Member Chrisman Lazarr – Yes
   Board Member Abranovic – Yes

4. **Past Chair Report** - Discussion and possible action

   This Item will be moved to the January 23, 2019 meeting

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5. **Environmental Achievement Recognition Award: Discuss next steps for notification of successful candidate; schedule and tasks for presentation – Discussion and possible action**

Acting Chair Bosse suggested the presentation of the current award take place in April of 2019 to acknowledge Earth Day. Board Member Chrisman Lazarr offered to assist on the presentation and to also seek out artists to create the award.

The Board received information from Past Chair McMahon that the Mayor’s office is generally OK with presenting the award to entities that are located in Scottsdale, do substantial work in Scottsdale, or both.

Acting Chair Bosse suggested the next award presentation take place in the month of April 2020 to again recognize Earth Day.

**MOTION AND VOTE – ITEM # 5**

Board Member Abranovic provided a motion to set the next award application deadline as September 30, 2019, Board Member Coletta provided a second for the motion; **MOTION APPROVED 4 – 0**

- Acting Chair Bosse – Yes
- Board Member Coletta – Yes
- Board Member Chrisman Lazarr – Yes
- Board Member Abranovic – Yes

6. **EQAB’s Purpose, Powers and Duties: Discuss progress on EQAB’s approved proposed modifications to City Code Sec 2-303, EQAB’s “Purpose; Powers, and Duties” and next steps – Discussion and possible action**

Mr. Conner explained that the Mayor and Council will be holding a Work Study Session February 12, 2019 to discuss all of the City’s Advisory Boards’ Purpose, Powers and Duties.

Acting Chair Bosse agreed to discuss the matter with Councilwomen Klapp and Milhaven, Board Member Coletta agreed to reach out to Councilman Phillips, and Board Member Chrisman Lazarr offered to speak with the Mayor to understand better why the decision was made to

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bring the item to the Study Session. After finding a better understanding, Acting Chair Bosse suggested the Board draft a letter expressing the Board’s position.

No Action was taken

7. **Organic Land Management Pilot Program:** Review discussions-to-date with Scottsdale’s Parks & Recreation Dept & UA’s Extension Service concerning Beyond Pesticides’ Organic Land Management pilot program in Scottsdale. Review alternative pilot program. Discuss next steps. – Discussion and possible action

Mr. Brown offered a brief recap of the meeting (11/20/18) between the UA Extension Service (Kai Umeda) and City Parks & Recreation (P&Rec) personnel (included Reed Pryor, Director). P&Rec asked Mr. Umeda what services, information and/or resources the Extension Service had to offer concerning the practice of managing turf without the use of pesticides/herbicides. Mr. Umeda said there was no dedicated information to pass on for “all organic” management on a large scale (i.e., public parks), but stressed the importance of maintaining healthy turf (aerating, grass height, watering, etc.) to prevent the proliferation of weeds. He also stressed the importance of managing large-scale turf in a documented and systematic approach (‘stated’ goals for pesticide reduction, delineated zones with defined characteristics, improved recordkeeping, etc.). As a result, Mr. Brown offered to draft an outline of an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) for P&Rec that incorporates these elements.

The Board agreed that the services for managing several “test plots” of parkland turf being offered by the non-profit organization Beyond Pesticides would provide valuable information on all aspects of concern. Namely, the ecological, staffing, and logistical factors involved with an accepted approach to “all organic” turf management. Each Board member expressed a strong desire to contribute and partner with P&Rec to establish a viable pilot program, utilizing Beyond Pesticides’ training and soil-testing services. Mr. Conner suggested that he, Mr. Brown and Mr. Pryor meet with the Directors of Planning & Development and Community Services to present the benefits (and initial fee) for this training/pilot program.

Mr. Brown suggested the possibility of a two-fold approach: (1) develop an IPM that stresses healthy turf and the reduction of pesticide/herbicide

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usage, and (2) commit to a viable test/pilot program that presents in-depth training on the principles of “organic” turf management. Board Members expressed continued interest in pursuing the implementation of an organic pilot program as a learning and testing experience, while also pursuing additional less toxic options for pest management.

Acting Chair Bosse stated that it is of utmost importance that the Board work to inspire a culture where environmental considerations are emphasized as essential components of policy and procedure development throughout the City. She opined that as the City creates a stronger environmental vision and integrates environmental vitality as a baseline value for economic and lifestyle vitality then our departmental operational planning can be inspired to more proactively incorporate these concepts.

Board Member Abranovic suggested that we proceed with a recommendation to the City Council to set out a goal of reducing the amount of pesticide and fertilizer use. He further suggested that the first step should be to establish the baseline.

No Action was taken

8. **Councilmember Korte’s challenge to elevate and advance environmental initiatives**: Follow-up discussion to last month’s staff presentation and materials provided. Discuss the board’s approach to the challenge and next steps. – Discussion and possible action

   The Board discussed the viability and effectiveness of where the Office of Environmental Initiatives (OEI) is currently placed within the City’s organizational chart and agreed that it should be located at a high level within the organization to better facilitate sustainable practices throughout the City. Board Member Chrisman Lazarr observed that OEI would have a greater impact if it was not buried deep within Planning & Development, one of the six departments.

   General discussion made the important distinction between “environmental compliance” and “sustainability” criteria; notably, that the latter was more proactive and forward-looking.

   Acting Chair Bosse proffered the need for a documented set of “guiding principles” and “higher values” that would inform the City’s position, goals and objectives on important environmental/sustainability concerns. Mr.

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Conner suggested that, as a starting point, the Board review the environmental sections of the adopted 2001 General Plan and the draft 2035 version.

Board Member Abranovic made the case for an economic development argument for sustainability. He cited the example of a company looking to locate and attract a young, educated workforce that expects a clean environment, one where, for example, less pesticide is being used on the soccer fields. He suggested that economic development and sustainability is not an “either-or” and economic development should be part of the Board’s messaging.

Board Members agreed to reach out to known contacts (via call, email) within the city governments of Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa and Peoria; and the Sustainable Cities Network. Board members will ask about where key environmental and sustainability personnel are located within their hierarchy; and about the effectiveness of that structure.

No Action was taken

9. **Board Members’ reports, updates and suggestions for future agenda items – Discussion**

10. **Updates and reminders –**

*Adjournment:* Acting Chair Bosse adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.