



**Approved (sb) 05/19/2021**

## **\*SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES\***

### City of Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission Regular Meeting

**5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, April 21, 2021**

### **Meeting Held Remotely**

Until further notice, Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (**SEAC**) meetings are being held electronically. While physical facilities are not open to the public, SEAC meetings are available on Scottsdale's YouTube channel to allow the public to virtually attend and listen/view the meeting in progress.

1. Go to ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search "live stream"
2. Click on "Scottsdale YouTube Channel"
3. Scroll to "Upcoming live streams"
4. Select the applicable meeting

Call to Order **5:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Chair Natalie Chrisman Lazarr, Vice Chair Anthony Coletta; Commission Members: David Abranovic (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Tammy Bosse, Walter Cuculic (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Ryan Johnson, Steven Schlosser

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tim Conner, Manager, Anthony Floyd, and Sam Brown - the Office of Environmental Initiatives; Christopher Zimmer and Amanda Willis, IT/Video Support; Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager; Erin Perreault, Planning & Development Area Director; Dan Worth, Public Works Director; Dave Bennett, Solid Waste Services Director; Gretchen Baumgardner, Water Policy Manager; Jody Pierce, Parks Manager

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Meeting was live streamed on Scottsdale You Tube channel to the public. There were no public comments received.

1. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2021: Commissioner Bosse made a motion to approve the Summarized Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2021; Commissioner Schlosser provided a Second for the motion, which carried 5-0, with Chair Chrisman Lazarr, Vice Chair Coletta and Commissioners Bosse, Johnson and Schlosser voting for APPROVAL.**



Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the Office of Environmental Initiatives at 480-312-7833 (if any)]. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance, or as early as possible, to allow time to arrange the accommodation. For TTY users, the Arizona Relay Service (1-800-367-8939) may contact the Office of Environmental Initiatives at 480-312-7833.

- 2. Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the Chaparral Park turf test plots trial and lessons learned.** Parks Manager Jody Pierce provided a brief summary of the comparison of three turf plots at Chaparral Park: one serving as a baseline study (routine turf treatment); one having no herbicide applied and using a routine synthetic fertilizer; and one having no herbicide applied and using an organic fertilizer. Mr. Pierce stated that there were no significant differences in turf durability or quality between the synthetic and organic fertilizer plots. The latter required approximately three times the cost (labor & materials) to maintain. Using a very rough estimate based on these tests, the Parks Department would incur an additional \$300,000/year in operating expenses if they maintained all parkland turf with organic fertilizer instead of the routine synthetic version. Chair Chrisman Lazarr stated her belief that the study did not evaluate the potential benefit of organic fertilizer use in reducing the need for herbicides.

**No Action Taken**

- 3. Presentation and discussion regarding initiatives to adopt and implement solid waste strategic plan which includes waste reduction, waste diversion and recycling efforts.**

Solid Waste Services Director Dave Bennett provided a detailed outline of the Solid Waste Strategic Plan. Mr. Bennett presented the eight strategic policy goals concerning waste diversion, residential/multi-family/commercial recycling, green waste & composting. Mr. Anthony Floyd spoke on the prospects for incorporating recyclable building materials into construction design standards. Commissioners requested additional information from Mr. Bennett regarding the potential for Scottsdale to offer weekly “green barrel” service for plant-based landscaping debris, versus the current monthly Brush and Bulk collection. Chair Chrisman Lazarr asked city staff what would be required to mandate commercial entities to actively engage in recycling. The consensus was that the City Council would have to agree and pass an ordinance to that effect.

**No Action Taken**

- 4. Discussion and possible Commission action regarding the integration of comments, priorities, and assignments into the Annual Work Plan.**

Chair Chrisman Lazarr led the discussion on the latest draft of the Work Plan. She requested that commissioners identify to her items that they want to see on a particular SEAC agenda and email any further additions or amendments directly to her. The Annual Work Plan will be discussed at the June SEAC meeting. Because future Commission recommendations might have significant costs associated with them, several commissioners requested information about the city’s budget process, and the steps necessary for preparation and approval. Mr. Brent Stockwell offered to supply that information. Mr. Stockwell also informed the Commission that the process for filling an environmental sustainability management position is actively engaged, with details currently being worked out. He also stated that the ASU Walton Sustainability Solution’s Heat Island Mitigation study will conclude June 30, and their work on the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan will commence July 1 and proceed through June 30, 2022.

**No Action Taken**

- 5. Discussion and possible Commission recommendations regarding Commission support for the City Council adopting the 2021 International Green Construction Code (IgCC) and International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).**

Mr. Anthony Floyd presented a brief synopsis on the importance of Scottsdale adopting the 2021 IgCC and IECC. He clarified that the elements of those adopted codes will then have the ability to be incorporated into municipal and design review code. Mr. Floyd then presented slides that explained the different electric vehicle (EV) charging station design options. Commissioner Cuculic offered to work with Mr. Floyd on drafting a letter of support to the City Council for the 2021 IgCC & IECC adoption. The status of letter will be discussed at the May SEAC meeting.

**No Action Taken**

**6. Update and discussion regarding the development of the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan and the Scottsdale Sustainability Indicators Report.**

Mr. Tim Conner stated that the statement of work for the next phase of the ASU Walton Sustainability Solution's contract (Scottsdale Sustainability Plan) is being prepared. He will present that to the Commission at the May meeting.

**No Action Taken**

**7. Discussion and possible Commission recommendations regarding support for City efforts to limit the discharge of brine solutions from water softeners.**

Commissioner Schlosser introduced the subject and discussed some of the major challenges; namely, that seasonal homeowners often don't turn their discharge systems off when their houses are vacant, and that the city staff position for managing public information on the subject has been vacant for two months.

**No Action Taken**

**8. Discussion and possible Commission recommendations regarding the Earth Day 2021 & Arbor Day planning updates.**

Commissioner Bosse provided a detailed account of the activities and video resources made available by the Mayor's Office, Library, Parks and Public Affairs personnel.

**No Action Taken**

**9. Staff Updates:**

- General updates; May meeting protocol (Zoom or hybrid) – Tim Conner
- Green Building updates - Anthony Floyd
- Sustainable Scottsdale Steering Team updates – Brent Stockwell

**No Action Taken**

**10. Review of anticipated items for the May 2021 Commission agenda, including requests by Commission Members for items to be included on future agendas.**

- General Plan 2035 Update
- Sustainability Plan Development
- Public Outreach on Sustainability/Environmental Issues
- Mayor Ortega to attend May Meeting

**No Action Taken**

**Adjournment: 7:50 p.m.**