



# M I N U T E S

## City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Thursday, May 23<sup>th</sup>, 2019

4:30 – 6:30 pm

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

A quorum of the Flagstaff City Council may be in attendance of the Sustainability Commission meeting.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact 928-213-2100. Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Brian Petersen, Chair

David McCain, Vice Chair

Eli Chamberlain

Breanna Guzman

Dara Marks Marino

Amanda Vigneau

Kevin White

#### STAFF LIAISON:

Jenny Niemann

#### 1. **Call to Order**

Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:31pm.

#### 2. **Roll Call**

Chair Petersen

Vice Chair McCain

Commissioner Chamberlain

Commissioner Guzman

Commissioner Marks Marino

Commissioner Vigneau

Commissioner White

#### 3. **Public Participation**

At this time, any member of the public may address the Commission on any subject that is not scheduled before the Commission on that day. The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item which is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commission members may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. To address the Commission on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

No public participation.

#### 4. **Approval of Minutes**

##### A. **April 25, 2019**

Commissioner Marks Marino requested that wording be changed in the Sustainability Section from “One Day in May” to “One a Day in May”.

Vice Chair McCain motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marks Marino. All voted in favor.

#### 5. **Business**

##### A. **New Member Welcome – Commissioner Breanna Guzman (5 minutes) – All**

Requested Action: Informational

Commissioners and staff introduced themselves to Commissioner Guzman.

Commissioner Guzman is currently an Americorps VISTA working on opioid education. As a recent college graduate, she is passionate about making a zero waste lifestyle affordable.

##### B. **Neighborhood Sustainability Grants – Water Conservation Applications (30 minutes) – All**

Requested Action: Vote to award grant funding

Neither of the applicant groups were present. Ms. Niemann pointed out that if there is still money available to award after this round of applications, a second round of applications will be opened up in the fall that would be available on January 1, 2020.

The Commissioners briefly discussed the Southside Community Association application, but wanted the opportunity for clarification on outreach and budget with the applicant before voting on approval. The vote will take place at the June meeting.

The Commissioners also discussed the application from Crystal Pike. All were in agreement that there are better resources available to a private citizen for water conservation than the grant money that is intended to have a connection to community. Vice Chair McCain motioned to deny application but inform the applicant of other resources available such as those provided by Water Services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chamberlain. All voted in favor.

Chair Petersen mentioned that there has typically been less interest in the Water Conservation Grant. The commission discussed ways to mitigate this such as allowing applicants to apply for both the Water Conservation and the General Sustainability Grants. Ms. Niemann agreed that the Sustainability staff will look into improving the application structure.

##### C. **HEE 101, Youth Climate Summit and Climate Ambassadors Recap (10 minutes) – Lee Bryant**

Requested Action: Informational

Lee Bryant, Climate Education VISTA for the City of Flagstaff, gave an update on youth- and adult-focused climate education programs.

The Flagstaff Youth Climate Summit (“the Summit”) was on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Arboretum. The Summit included an expo with the Sustainability Program and Water Services as well as two challenges for students to complete and present on.

One of those challenges was the Climate Action Challenge from 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders from nine different schools and organizations. These students created and implemented a project geared toward making their community more sustainable including reducing single-use plastic and bike repairs. The winner of the Climate Action Challenge was a team from Hopi Sr. High School that presented a project about water use in farming on the reservation.

Ms. Bryant reported on the free Home Energy Efficiency Workshops that have been given with help from Commissioner Chamberlain and other local companies. The workshops reached 92 households and 107 individuals, and they are currently working on mapping those participants to determine the reach of the program and ultimately improve outreach.

The new Flagstaff Climate Ambassadors program launched in March with three-hour trainings on local climate change issues and adaptations with the goal of facilitating one-on-one informative conversations with other community members. Two trainings have happened so far with 43 total participants, and the next training will be on June 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:30 at the Murdoch Community Center. Presentation materials for this program are currently available online. In development is the Flagstaff Climate Leaders program. It will be a longer eight-week program with speakers, activities, and field trips to give a more in-depth understanding of climate change issues with the intention of Climate Leaders being able to give presentations to the community.

Commissioner Chamberlain mentioned he would be willing to be a speaker for the Climate Leaders program. Ms. Niemann suggested helping with program development for the Climate Leaders by discussing potential speakers at the June commission meeting.

#### **D. Update on the Building Code Update Process (15 minutes) – Jenny Niemann**

Requested Action: Discussion

Ms. Niemann gave an update on the Building Code updates discussed by City Council. City Council will be reading through and voting on these updates on June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 18<sup>th</sup>. The current building code is out of date as it was from 2009 and the current Council is open to updates to improve sustainability. These updates will be effective immediately in July, but there will be a grace period until January for compliance.

The Commission discussed amendments related to sustainability including electric vehicle charging capabilities, photovoltaic panel compatibility of new structures, and adjusting required dimensions for steps and ceilings of tiny houses to make them easier to build and use.

Commissioner Chamberlain will write a letter of support for the proposed update to City Council with help from Chair Peterson.

#### **E. Policy Incubation and Community Needs (45 minutes) – All**

Requested Action: Discussion and vote on the initiation of sub-committees

The Commission discussed previous topic ideas for sub-committees. By recommendation from Commissioner Marks Marino, the Commission decided to add sub-committee ideas that are aligned with sections from the Climate Action and

Adaptation Plan. Commissioners volunteered to lead or participate in the following sub-committees or working groups:

- Zero Waste sub-committee led by Commissioner Guzman with Chair Petersen
- Transportation and Land Use sub-committee led by Commissioner Marks Marino with Chair Petersen
- Community Resiliency sub-committee led by Vice Chair McCain with Chair Petersen and Commissioner Guzman
- Equity working group supported by Commissioner Vigneau

**F. Adopt-an-Avenue clean-up (5 minutes) – All**

Requested Action: Informational

The Adopt-an-Avenue clean-up for the Commission is scheduled for Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm-7 pm on Aspen Ave. from City Hall into downtown. Ms. Niemann will confirm attendance and coordinate logistics.

**G. Sustainability Section Update (5 minutes) – Jenny Niemann**

Requested Action: Informational

Ms. Niemann outlined the many upcoming Sustainability Section events through July.

The following are upcoming items for City Council meetings:

- E-bike and Scooter Ordinance work session on May 28<sup>th</sup>
- 1<sup>st</sup> read: Building Code Adoption and E-bike and Scooter Ordinance on June 4<sup>th</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> read: Building Code Adoption and E-bike and Scooter Ordinance on June 18<sup>th</sup>
- Animal Keeping Code Update moved to September
- Renewable and Clean Energy Discussion in October

The “One A Day In May” campaign has been successful so far with 3,000 pieces of litter picked up by 84 community members. Commissioner Marks Marino’s family is currently in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

Dylan Lenzen has started as the new Zero Waste Coordinator and will be heading a “Food Matters” working group focusing on food waste. Recycling bin inspections for education and enforcement will also start in the next couple of weeks. Additionally, the Fix-It Clinic last weekend was successful, saving 80 pounds of waste.

Ms. Niemann also attended the Transportation Electrification and Equity Workshop in Portland, Oregon and working group applications are launching next week. The applications will start with Equity, Electric Vehicles, and Health.

In Open Space, the first Open Space Stewards training happened last week with 20 participants and the Schultz survey results have now been published and will be sent to the Commission.

**6. To and From (5 Minutes) – All**

The Commission will still plan on having the meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Petersen adjourned the meeting at 6:32pm.

**CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Disability Awareness Commission with the City Clerk.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

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