



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Wednesday, March 11, 2015
4:30 – 6:00 pm

City Hall, Staff Conference Room
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:

Todd Barnell, Chair
Elisha Dorfsmith, Vice Chair
Jodi Norris
Kevin Ordean
Jeff Stevenson
Ellen Vaughan
Jack Welch

STAFF LIAISON:

Nicole Woodman, Sustainability Manager

1. Call to Order

2. Public Participation

Ward Davis presented on behalf of a water conversation group comprised of scientists and engineers who are currently researching alternatives for the Red Gap Ranch project. Alternatives that are currently being pursued are direct potable reuse as well as to transition the commercial system into a tiered system.

3. Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Elisha Dorfsmith moved to approve the February 2015 minutes, and Commission Chair Todd Barnell seconded the motion.

4. Discussion Items

A. Develop Marketing Plan for Sustainability Grant – All

A fillable PDF form has been created for the Neighborhood Sustainability Grant. The Commissioners have been tasked with sending out the grant to their affiliated

organizations and extended networks. Kevin Ordean will create a twenty second radio blurb to be aired on KAFF Radio. Ellen Vaughn will be responsible for social media outreach and Jeff Stevenson will be responsible for writing the detailed narrative for the grant. There will also be additional tabling for the grant during Earth Day at the Bike to Work Week table hosted by Jack Welsh. A media package will be compiled and distributed to all Commissioners.

B. Earth Day – Libby Champagne

The Earth Day celebration will officially be held in Heritage Square. Currently there are thirty tables already registered and registration for tabling will close on Friday March 20th. Terry Madeksza from the Downtown Business Alliance and Libby Champagne will be canvassing to the downtown businesses to gauge interest for participation in promoting specific Earth Day deals in the form of a passport. Earth Day will be an opportunity for businesses to showcase sustainability efforts and community involvement. Dependent upon feedback from downtown businesses on the event, a bid for the Heritage Square space will be placed again immediately following the event. Finally, Tower of Trash will not be happening this year due to controversial conception of what the tower represents within the Flagstaff community.

C. Lights Out Flagstaff – Tamara Lawless

Lights Out Flagstaff will be held Friday March 27th and Saturday 28th. The event will consist of a kick off at Heritage Square on Friday with all lights from surroundings businesses turned off and an opportunity to see the night sky through telescopes in the Square. There will also be a shuttle service from Heritage Square up to Buffalo Park where there will be a National Park Service ranger giving a constellation talk. On Saturday from 5 pm to 10 pm there will be free admission at Lowell Observatory as well as Earth Hour at NAU from 8 pm to 9 pm. Commission Chair Todd Barnell will review the dark sky ordinance and provide feedback on an informational flyer about dark sky compliance. In the meantime a promotional Albert will be created for the event and all promotional material will be distributed to the Commissioners.

D. Plastic Bag Management Update – Nicole Woodman

The ad hoc focus group has held their second meeting and has thus far agreed upon guiding principles for the group and issues within the community related to plastic bags. Nicole Woodman provided the group with background information compiled by the Commission as well as plastic bag research presented during the January and February Council meetings. The group has a third meeting before they must come up with an overarching recommendation, which will be presented to Council alongside the Commission's draft ordinance and staff recommendation in late April or early May.

E. Bike to Work Week – Jack Welch and Libby Champagne

The regularly scheduled board meeting was canceled so the new meeting date for the group is Monday, March 16th, causing planning efforts to be later than usual.

The event is anticipated to be run similar to previous years with the exception of a 7 am breakfast for the first ride of the week.

F. New Meeting Date – Nicole Woodman

In order to accommodate new open meeting requirements all Commission meetings will be streamed live to the public. Therefore, the Sustainability Commission would change its' meeting time to the third Wednesday of the month. Some Commissioners raised concerns about the meetings being streamed live, cautioning that the working relationships that have been established between Commissioners would not exist if meetings were streamed and may reduce the number of volunteers wanting to become Commissioners. Other Commissioners expressed support for the increased transparency and public access that streaming would bring. Commissioners left staff with a variety of questions to accommodate Commissioner's concerns as well as the format of future meetings.

G. Staff Liaison – Nicole Woodman

Tamara Lawless will be filling in for Nicole Woodman as Staff Liaison for the Sustainability Commission for the remainder of the year.

5. Action Items

6. To and From

Jodi Norris would like to discuss a water conservation issue next Commission meeting.

7. Agenda Items for Next Month

- A. Grant Application Reviews
- B. Answers from Clerk for live Stream
- C. Earth Day Update
- D. Lights Out Flagstaff Debrief
- E. Bike to Work week

8. Adjournment

Commission Chair Todd Barnell moves to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 pm.

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 _____, 2015.

Chris Monteverde, Administrative Specialist