



# MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Thursday, June 27<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

#### MINUTES:

Lisa Clark

#### 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. May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019**

Commissioner White motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chamberlain. All voted in favor.

**5. Business**

**A. Sustainability Neighborhood Grant Application Review (105 minutes) – All**

Requested Action: Discussion and vote

The Neighborhood Grant Program is intended to increase capacity for sustainability within the community. City Council increased the funding for the General Sustainability Grant for a total of \$11,500 in addition to the remaining \$6,000 for the Water Conservation Grant. The Commission scored each grant application based on the following criteria:

1. Clarity and completion of the application;
2. The project conforms with guidelines;
3. Feasibility of the project budget and schedule;
4. Alignment with the Sustainability Commission Priority Areas, (listed on page 1 of the application file, attached) and;
5. Project longevity.

Ten total applications were reviewed, one of which was for the Water Conservation Grant rather than the General Sustainability Grant. Commissioners discussed each application and decided the amount to award for each if applicable.

- Deborah Harris with the Southside Community Association presented an application for the Water Conservation Grant to help the Murdoch Community Center replace leaking faucets and old facilities in order to conserve water at the Center and allow for their new garden to be watered more. Decision: Fully funded for \$2,000.
- Darren Bingham (The Azulita Project) and Tyler Linner (CEO, Praxis Waste Solutions) applied for grant money to fund a pilot project to provide reusable cups for the Flagstaff Community Farmers Market. The majority of grant funds would be used to purchase the cups. Eventually, they plan to bring the same model to the Pepsi Amphitheater. Decision: Fully funded for \$1,765.
- Emma Wharton (Executive Director) presented the application for Grand Canyon Youth, an organization that provides experiential education through river trips for 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Grand Canyon Youth asked for funds to work with TerraBIRDS and Ponderosa High School to plant a sustainable xeriscaped educational garden outside of their office located in Sunnyside. The office location is heavily visited by youth and parents and provides a local opportunity for place-based education. Decision: Fully funded for \$2,000.

- Crystal Routhe (STEAM Community Coordinator) presented the application for Mountain Charter School. Mountain School is located in Ponderosa Trails, and the project is intended to create a much-needed community garden and provide the opportunity for community members to attend workshops and workdays and ultimately lead those events. Decision: Fully funded for \$1,940.98.
- Mark Alexander (volunteer and board member) presented the application for Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance (NAZCCA). NAZCCA is dedicated to informing the public about the effects of climate change from door-to-door outreach to community presentations. The grant would help to fund some of these presentations. Commissioners expressed concern that a large portion of the grant (\$1,400) would be paid directly to speakers for travel as speaker fees are discouraged as a use of grant funds within the Neighborhood Grant Program. Decision: Partially funded for \$1,089.02.
- Jodi Keogh with Over the Rainbow Butterfly Garden and Monica LeDesky (Flagstaff Leadership Program) summarized their application to fund the Red Door, which is a community space owned by Over the Rainbow Butterfly Garden intended for use by local non-profits. Previously, rent and other operation costs were paid by The Garden Thrift Store, but with the sale of the store, the Red Door needs financial assistance. While the Commissioners were excited about the concept of the Red Door, they were concerned that the application did not align with the grant objectives. Decision: Not awarded.
- JB DeWitt with the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association of Flagstaff presented an application to fund a bilingual radio show series for RadioSunnyside called “Learn-Know-Grow” about various aspects of backyard gardening. Mr. DeWitt also presented an application to support the Sunnyside Community Market. The grant would allow for the market to keep vending costs low and improve marketing. However, while the two grant applications were submitted by separate entities, the Sunnyside Community Market has recently become a part of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association. Each organization can only be awarded one grant per the guidelines of the program; while this was a unique situation, the Commissioners decided to uphold the rule and only select one application to award funds to. Decision: RadioSunnyside fully funded for \$2,000 due to the greater need of the program. Sunnyside Community Market not awarded.
- Dr. Alice Christie (founder) and Martin Johnson (former Northern Arizona University intern) from Tynkertopia, Inc. presented their application. Tynkertopia is a new community center focused on STEAM education for kids located in Sunnyside. Grant funding would allow Tynkertopia to start a large learning garden outside the building in a lot that has been vacant for 10 years. Commissioners were concerned that some of the budgeted funds were intended for teaching stipends as the grant program discourages the use of funds for wages. Decision: Partially funded for \$1,600.
- Brock Delinski presented the application for Compost Crowd. Currently, Compost Crowd collects compost from neighborhoods in Sedona and gives to local farms but they would like to expand to Flagstaff businesses. In order increase capacity, they need a trailer for hauling the compost. The Commissioners were excited about the application, but were unsure whether the application was eligible for the program as Compost Crowd does not have a

physical address. Decision: Fully funded for \$2,000 pending a local address or advisement from the Legal Department.

Commissioner Chamberlain motioned to approve awarded funds to the applications above as specified. The motion was seconded by Commissioner White. All voted in favor.

**B. Climate Leaders Program Speakers (10 Minutes) – Jenny Niemann**

Requested Action: Informational and Recommendations

Ms. Niemann will address this agenda item through email due to lack of time.

**6. To and From (5 Minutes) – All**

Ms. Niemann provided a brief update on the Sustainability Section. City Council allocated funds to hire the Climate and Data Coordinator, Climate Outreach Coordinator, and part-time Community Stewards Assistant. Additional funding was also provided for the climate data software and reporting, the energy rebate program, home energy efficiency workshops for community residents, and behavior change marketing.

Chair Petersen wants to give a letter to City Council to thank them for the additional allocated funds. Commissioner White will write the letter and the Commission will vote to approve at the July 25<sup>th</sup> Sustainability Commission meeting.

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Petersen adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm.

**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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