



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

October 9, 2013
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 928-213-2106. Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

CALL TO ORDER

ATTENDING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Kathy Farretta, Chair
Elisha Dorfsmith
Jack Welch
Jodi Norris

CITY STAFF:

Nicole Woodman
Tamara Lawless

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Jamie Samana
Kim Lucy

1. Call to Order

Commission Chair Kathy Farretta called the October Sustainability Commission Meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

2. 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 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.

3. Approval of Minutes

Elisha Dorfsmith moved to approve the September minutes and Jack Welch seconded.

4. Discussion Items

A. Commission Schedule

Nicole Woodman informed the committee that the commission meetings will remain on Wednesday evenings. There will be three upcoming open seats on the Sustainability Commission; appointments will go to council in November. Future scheduling of the

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commission meetings will potentially be dependent upon commission workload. This will be determined once the new commissioners have been selected and can provide their input. Nicole will send out the call for commissioner suggestions to the commission.

B. Plastic Bag Next Steps

Jack Welch feels that the current political climate is not conducive for making headway on the plastic bag ban. Jodi Norris asked for an update on the commission's official position. Kathy Ferretta explained that they are pro-solution, and in the past had decided to pursue steps that would ban plastic bags in Flagstaff. The commission had decided then to do community surveys to garner public opinion about a plastic bag ban vs. a tax on plastic bags. This survey has not yet been implemented, but there is a question on the community-wide survey that the City sends out that asks about plastic bags.

The commission voted to decide to re-evaluate their strategy on plastic bags once the new commissioners are appointed. Motion carried.

5. To and From – Staff

Nicole Woodman informed the Commission that the Sustainable Homes tour is this Saturday, from 10-2 starting at Willow Bend Environmental Education Center. Kathy Ferretta asked for an update on recycling education and recycling posters for bins. Nicole brought out the posters and post cards with recycling information that are available to Flagstaff residents. Nicole reminded the commission of the 15 minute park makeover initiative, "10:15 on 10/15." Nicole also announced that November 15th is America Recycles Day. Commissioners may serve as volunteers on this day at local grocery stores, performing recycling outreach. Nicole explained the recent challenges the City has faced with the blue dumpsters, since they are perceived as recycling containers due to blue being the international color for recycling. Other updates included an announcement that the solar projects at the Aquaplex, Rio de Flag, and Wildcat are 70-80% complete, and that the sustainability program has recently received two large grants. The first was the open space grant of 6 million dollars, which will enable the City to purchase 2251 acres for a total cost of 12 million dollars. The second grant is \$277,000 for the creation of a sustainability master plan for the airport. Flagstaff will be the first southwest community to create one of these plans, which will put us ahead of other communities since these plans will soon be a requirement for all airports. Tamara Lawless discussed the City's upcoming resilience workshops, which will help to translate the Resilience and Preparedness Study into actionable items. Tamara and Jodi Norris also presented on the progress for Lights Out Flagstaff, which will be held March 28th and 29th 2013.

8. Agenda Items for Next Month

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Faretta; Jodi Norris and Jack Welch seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.