



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Wednesday, November 12th, 2014
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, Vice Chair
Elisha Dorfsmith
Jodi Norris
Kevin Ordean
Jack Welch

CITY STAFF:

Nicole Woodman
Tamara Lawless
Elizabeth Champagne
Kelsey Morales

COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Ashley Ford
Kyle Lindsay

Commission Vice Chair Todd Barnell called the October Sustainability Commission meeting to order at 4:30 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

1. 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.

2. Approval of Minutes

Commission member Jack Welch motioned to approve the September minutes and Elisha Dorfsmith seconded the motion.

3. Discussion Items

A. Commission Seats – Nicole Woodman

Nicole Woodman informed the commission that there would be two open seats on the commission as Kathy and Jodi's terms will be ending shortly. Jodi has put herself up for

serving another term. Kathy, the current Chair is not able to attend future meetings due to a new job.

B. Resiliency Exercise – Tamara Lawless

Tamara Lawless continued with the Resiliency Exercise from the previous session. Some of the key discussion points centered on what Flagstaff might look like into the future. It is believed that we will either continue to see growth as we have in the past, or experience a drop off and decrease in population due to barriers created by climate change. Psychological influences of climate change may be limited by how visual the problem is to the public. The effect of climate change on power and ecosystem supply was one of the most vulnerable and drastic components discussed.

The commission will create a small written report of their findings that can be given to city council and use to inform actions of the commission and directions of the micro grants. Todd Barnell proposed that the commission write up a draft text and collect resources to bring back to the January meeting, and, at the very least, create an outline. Tamara will send out information from last 2 meetings to the entire commission.

C. Community Sustainability Grants – All

Nicole updated the commission on the micro grants that the commission will be awarding to members of the public. She suggested that either the entire commission or a subcommittee should meet up to create the grant requirements. She also suggested that this grant money become part of the budget planning in the future. BPAC and the Historic Commission both give out micro grants and should be looked to as an example. Todd Barnell approved the creation of a subcommittee that should create a timeline, set goals and try to launch in April. This committee will be composed of Kevin Ordean and Jodi Norris, who will immediately begin working and bring something for the commission to review to the December meeting.

Nicole Woodman proposes a change of date for the next meeting so that more people can be present. Wednesday December 17th is agreed upon for the next meeting so that more members can attend. Nicole will find a location and inform the commission.

D. Plastic Bag Update – Nicole Woodman

Nicole Woodman updated the commission on the work she has been doing surrounding a plastic bag ban. She has met with all council members and next she will be focused on neighborhood associations. The City Manager would like this brought forward in December or January. The main concern that is being voiced is how the ban or tax would affect the working poor. Bag Banks in targeted areas of the community will work to address this concern. In the next month Nicole will be talking with Sunnyside and other low income neighborhoods to incorporate their input. Sierra Club, F3 and Nicole will be meeting about moving this forward on Friday November 21st at 10:30. We will work with business and community to give them lead time. If the bag ban is passed and the Sustainability Program is able to distribute free bags, notes explaining the law should be placed on each bag. Jodi suggests the Native Plants Society for outreach and the Friends of the Rio de Flag

4. Action Items

A. Elect Chair and Vice Chair – All

Todd Barnell called for an election during the meeting. Kevin Ordean nominates Todd Barnell to the point of chair and he is voted in by the council. Kevin Ordean nominates Elisha Dorfsmith and he is unanimously voted in as Vice Chair.

5. To and From

Jodi Norris undated the commission on the Viva La Verde film. This is a kick starter campaign and as part of the complain there will be a hike which could be interesting for the commissioners to learn about water issues in Flagstaff. Nicole and Jodi will be meeting to discuss a time that works. Nicole will send out a link of the video.

Tamara Lawless updated the commission on her plans for Lights Out Flagstaff. She requested that a member of the sustainability commission be on the planning committee, they should email her if they are interested.

Kelsey Morales informed the commission about the upcoming DIY Clinics. One will be held tomorrow at Killip Elementary School at 5:30pm. The next one will be November 20th at the East Side Library at 7pm. The clinic provides attendees with products and instructions on small ways to weatherize their house.

Nicole Woodman updated the commission the findings from the Walnut Canyon study. The study produced 3 recommendations. One recommendation is that the highest level of protection be given to the canyon, this will be the 4th time this is going back to City Council. The area proposed is half county half city. On December 16th Nicole will present to Council on boundaries. Public support at the council meeting is welcome however, this item will be at the end of the agenda and another option for showing support would be to ask people to email their council members.

6. Agenda Items for Next Month

- A. Regional Plan Update – postpone until we have a more clear understanding.
- B. Review draft application and discussion of how to move forward on micro grants.

7. Adjournment

Commission Vice Chair Todd Barnell adjourned the meeting at 6:04 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 _____, 2014.

Chris Monteverde, Administrative Specialist