



MINUTES

City of Flagstaff Sustainability Commission

Thursday, February 25, 2016
4:30 – 6:00 pm

City Hall, Council Chambers
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:

Elisha Dorfsmith, Chair

Kevin Ordean, Vice Chair

Amelia Blake

Eli Chamberlain

John Kistler

Dara Marks-Marino

Ellen Vaughan

STAFF LIAISON:

Tamara Lawless, Sustainability Specialist

Nicole Woodman, Sustainability Manager

1. Call to Order

Commission Chair Dorfsmith called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Dorfsmith, Kistler, Chamberlain, Blake, Ordean, and Vaughan were present for roll call. Commissioner Marks-Marino was absent.

3. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

4. Approval of Minutes

Chair Dorfsmith motioned to approve the January 2016 minutes and Vice-Chair Ordean seconded the motion. All commissioners voted in favor.

5. Discussion Items

A. Overview of Commissioner Rules of Conduct (Stacy Saltzburg)

Stacy Saltzburg, Deputy City Clerk, and Anja Wendel, Senior Assistant City Attorney, took questions from commissioners on proper conduct outside of commission meetings. Commissioners had concerns about meetings with lobbyists and community members outside of the commission, and on protocol for accepting gifts or written materials. Ms. Saltzburg and Ms. Wendel clarified that commissioners cannot accept anything of value from members of the public. Meetings with community members to discuss concerns or relevant issues are acceptable as long as the interactions are not used as a way for commissioners to deliberate with one another. In addition, if educational materials are provided to a specific commissioner, it is acceptable to share those materials with the rest of the commission. When in doubt, an open meeting in front of the full commission is always a good option for public discourse.

B. Highlights from MNA Neighborhood Grant (Lissa Buyske)

Lissa Buyske provided the commission with highlights from the Neighborhood Sustainability Grant that funded a composting project at the Museum of Northern Arizona. The two part workshop series, which partnered with Roots Composting, demonstrated the process of constructing a backyard composter.

C. Regional Transportation Plan (John Saltonstall)

David Wessel, Flagstaff Metropolitan Planning Organization (FMPO) Manager, provided an update to the commission on the Regional Transportation Plan. As part of the process, the FMPO is looking to engage multiple stakeholders, including the Sustainability Commission. The plan is expected to be completed in June 2016. Mr. Wessel led the Commission through a polling exercise to determine priorities regarding moving people, creating jobs, the environment, and neighborhoods. Commissioners noted that a survey with a ranking system could provide the FMPO with useful information in the future. Commissioners noted that the strengths of the current transportation system include the FUTS, NAIPTA bus lines, and the major freeway that connects the two sides of Flagstaff. Sustainability strengths include the downtown walkable area, and the culture of biking and walking in Flagstaff. Weaknesses in the current system include challenges to bicycle safety, streets designed around cars, and poor road maintenance for bikes and pedestrians during winter months. Commissioners also noted that traffic congestion increases air pollution and fuel inefficiency due to idling cars. Commissioners noted that threats to a sustainable transportation system could include state legislation and growth in the tourism industry.

D. Solid Waste Ordinance (Nicole Woodman)

Nicole Woodman, Sustainability Manager, requested that this item be delayed until the April commission meeting to incorporate recent legislative changes.

E. Lights Out Flagstaff Handout (All)

Tamara Lawless, Sustainability Specialist, sought feedback from the commissioners on a Lights Out Flagstaff handout. Suggestions for improvement

included color changes to the handout and the addition of a “buyer’s guide” for businesses and residents. Commissioners suggested using Earth Day as a venue for discussing this issue with the public.

6. Action Items

There were no action items.

7. To and From

Tamara Lawless, Sustainability Specialist, shared a request from Pine Forest Charter School with the commission. Pine Forest requested permission to reallocated funds within the scope of their grant funded project. Commissioners agreed that the reallocation of funds was in compliance with the initially accepted grant application, and should be allowed. Commissioner Kistler and Ms. Lawless updated the Commission on the Lights Out Flagstaff event planning.

8. Agenda Items for Next Month

A. Open Space Programming Update - Betsy Emery

B. NAIPTA Van Pool Program

C. Earth Day Update – Libby Champagne

9. Adjournment

Commission Chair Dorfsmith adjourned the meeting at 5:52 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 _____, 2016.

Administrative Specialist