

**SIERRA VISTA ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION**  
**February 25, 2015**  
**Pedro Castro Public Works Administrative Building**

Chairman Dennis Ehrenberger call the regular Meeting of the Sierra Vista Environmental Affairs Commission to order at 3:30 PM.

**Members Present:** Bernie Stalman  
Tom Kennedy  
Kim Mulhern  
Dennis Ehrenberger  
Norm Patten  
Tate Willcox

**Associate Members Present:** Gene Fenstermacher  
Amy Carter

**Members Absent:** George Monken

**Council Liaison Present:** Hank Huisking

**Staff Liaison Present:** Ryan Kooi, Public Works

**Other Present:** Scott Dooley – Public Works Director  
Janet Laduke – City of Sierra Vista

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:**

Commissioner Kennedy moved to accept the agenda for the meeting. Commissioner Stalman seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous to accept (6-0).

**ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Commissioner Kennedy moved to accept the minutes of the January 28, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Patten seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous to accept (6-0).

**COUNCIL LIAISON'S COMMENTS:**

Council Liaison Huisking asked if anyone was planning on attending the Star Party tonight at the UofA Observatory.

Council Liaison Huisking made a request to have the Call to Public moved higher on the agenda. It was discussed by the members and decided that the Call to Public would stay at the end of the agenda.

Council Liaison Huisking advised:

- City Hall saved 15% on electricity last quarter.
- The Planning and Zoning Commission is discussing the digital sign language March 3, 2015 at 5:00 PM at City Hall in the Council Chambers.
- Citizen's Advisory Commission (CAC) meetings will be held each week until budget has been completed.
- Everyone should take the branding survey, which is on the City's website.
- She attended the Tourism Partners meeting which was attended by representatives from the lodging, restaurant, and car rental industries in the area.
- Our Sister City, Cananea, MX., is sending GEM students to Sierra Vista in April.
- Check the internet for the International Ecotourism Society for great information on what ecotourism is all about.

#### STAFF LIAISON'S COMMENTS:

Ryan Kooi reported:

- 82 tons of glass was recycled in 2014. The City received revenue in the about of \$1,640 and saved \$4,387 in tipping fees. Scott Dooley, Ryan Kooi and Commissioner Ehrenberger discussed glass recycling prior to the meeting. Scott advised that because the containers for glass recycling are open at all times to all residents (County residents also), the City loses money when County residents recycle glass because there is a cost for transporting the glass to the recycler and County residents are not City Refuse rate payers. We receive \$15 per ton, but it costs us \$21 per ton to transport.

#### EAC Chair Comments

Commissioner Ehrenberger advised the EAC presentation to the Council is scheduled for April 13, 2015 at 4:00 PM. They will update the Council on last years' accomplishments and give a brief overview of projects they wish to pursue during 2015.

Commissioner Ehrenberger requested next month's meeting be rescheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup>. There were no objections.

## OLD BUSINESS:

1. Water Shed Management Presentation: item tabled until the March meeting.
2. Plastic Bag Update: Ryan advised that the City Council's Strategic Objective assigned to Public Works was to give them information on plastic bag litter, not to ban the use of them. Ryan has written a report on the pros and cons.

A survey by Survey Monkey on the plastic bag issue had the following results:

- 28% felt it is not a City issue
- 27% felt the bags should be banned
- 19% felt the bags should be recycled
- 11% felt there should be a tax
- 6% felt there needed to be more public education
- 5% felt the City needed to promote clean events
- 3% felt there should be incentives for using reusable bags.

Ryan Kooi advised that Tim McCabe, the President of the Arizona Food Marketing Alliance, would like to be involved with the plastic bag initiative. Commissioner Ehrenberger suggested that the members look at the report and send their comments to Ryan to compile for an EAC position. Amy Carter suggested using another word instead of "tax" in reference to charging for plastic bags, as most people do not like the word "tax".

3. Update on Eco Tourism: Members were asked to check the internet for the International Ecotourism Society for a description of the subject.
4. Update on Digital Lighting: Commissioner Willcox advised that the lighting code has changed for the better with regards to dark skies. He advised the Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on March 3, 2015 and the final plan will go to the City Council in April.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### Project Rankings for 2015 / Discussion / Assignment of Project Managers

Property Clean-Up – Commissioner Patten volunteered to be the Project Manager.

PV Solar – Commissioner Kennedy volunteered to be the Project Manager.

West End Fair (May 2, 2015) – Commissioner Willcox volunteered to be the Project Manager.

EAC Award for Conservation – Commissioner Mulhern volunteered to be the Project Manager.

Projects that will be considered in the future:

Detention Basin Drain Sizing  
Net Zero Water  
Grant Writer  
Hazardous Material (paint)  
Water Awareness Month  
Expansion of Recycling

Buffalo Soldier Trail Extension and Water Conservation Measures

Gene Fenstermacher wrote a paper. Commissioner Ehrenberger read the paper and doesn't think it should involve the EAC.

EAC Position on E-Cigarettes

It was agreed a lot of research is needed to determine a position on this issue.

Call to the Public – Requests of the Commission

None.

Request for Future Action Items

Field Trips – Potential Visits – this item tabled until after the April meeting.

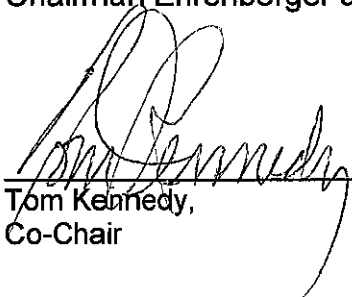
McFadden Park – should it be expanded?

Sierra Vista Transit Center – this is a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building. The EAC would like a tour of the facility and a presentation. Ryan Kooi will set this up.

ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled EAC meeting will be March 18, 2015 at 3:30 PM at the Pedro Castro Maintenance Center.

Chairman Ehrenberger adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.

  
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Tom Kennedy,  
Co-Chair