

SIERRA VISTA Environmental Affairs Commission
26 August, 2015
Pedro Castro Public Works Administrative Building

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Dennis Ehrenberger called the regular meeting of the Sierra Vista Environmental Affairs Commission to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL -

Members Present:

Bernie Stalman
Tom Kennedy
George Monken
Tate Wilcox
Dennis Ehrenberger

Members Absent:

Norm Patten

Associate Members Present:

Gene Fenstermacher
Amy Carter

Council Liaison:

Hank Huisking

Staff Liaison Present:

Ryan Kooi, Public Works

Others Present:

Richard Cayer, Operations Manager,
Transportation & Environmental Services

Brenda Foote, Department of
Transportation & Environmental Services

Jack Blair, Sulphur Springs Valley Electric
Cooperative

David Banes, Sulphur Springs Valley
Electric Cooperative

Joanne Roberts, ZIA Engineering &
Environmental

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA - Commissioner Kennedy moved to accept the agenda for the meeting. Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous to accept (5-0)

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ACCEPTANCE OF THE July 22, 2015 MEETING MINUTES - Commissioner Kennedy moved to accept the minutes of 27 May 2015. Commissioner Stalman seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous to accept (5-0)

COUNCIL LIAISON'S COMMENTS - Council person Huisling reported members of the City Council attended a meeting of the League of Arizona Cities & Towns in Tucson. She highlighted the presentation presented by the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) Task Force, which dealt with finding a solution to the cost of the Retirement systems for safety personnel. She also reported the City is promoting the City Brand and Strapline and how to incorporate into various local businesses and City activities.

STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS - Ryan Kooi reported that the tour of the Sierra Vista Transit Center went well.

PRESENTATION:

Jack Blair SSVEC - Jack provided an update on recent EPA rulings. The rulings deal with Regional Haze issues. The Apache Electric Generating Facility is changing one of its generators from coal to gas. The new generator will be 70% efficient as the generator using coal. This conversion will move Arizona from being number 1 on the list of states with Regional Haze problems to middle of the list.

He also reported that the request before the Arizona Corporation Commission dealing with Solar will be changed from a "Solar Case" to a "Rate Case."

Brenda Foote, Department of Transportation & Environmental Services - Brenda provided an update to what the City is doing in terms of Recycling. Her presentation reviewed the success of Glass Recycling, Compost and Curbside recycling. She also reviewed new programs which are being worked on to increase recycling within the City. She talked about a campaign which will "spotlight" those who are doing good recycling. The campaign will start 15 November 2015 (America Recycles Day) and conclude on 22 April 2016 (Earth Day). The City is also going to offer an "App" for smart phones that will let users know what days the recycle collections are, what can be recycled, delays in recycle collection, etc. The City is also talking to commercial entities around the City to encourage their participation in recycling.

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EAC CHAIR COMMENTS:

Commissioner Ehrenberger reported on the Open Meeting class that was provided by the City. The Open Meeting Law requires (1) notice of the meeting, (2) published agenda, (3) public's rights, (4) if there is a call to the public it must be part of the agenda, (5) executive sessions are authorized (not relevant to Commissions), and (6) written minutes of the meeting. Each body governed by the Open Meeting Law has options dealing with a call to the public and associate members. These options will be discussed at the next EAC meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Property Clean Up - Commissioner Stalman provided a report for Commissioner Patten. Commissioner Patten and Commissioner Stalman met with Simone McFarland, Economic Development Manager, concerning commercial properties. Simone talked about the Buffalo Soldier Gate to Ft. Huachuca since it is closed on weekends, there may be activities that could draw more people to the West End.

Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director, is working on updating City ordinances concerning nuisance properties. The goal of the updates is to speed up the process it takes to have nuisance properties "cleaned up." Council person Huisking commented that the City Council will be extremely happy if this goal can be achieved, since the current process is quite lengthy and it often appears that nothing can be done to clean up "nuisance properties."

PV Solar - Commissioner Kennedy stated he would solicit input concerning PV Solar.

EAC Public Awareness - Commissioner Wilcox reported EAC will have a table at Disability Day to be held 10 AM - 2 PM on October 17 at the Mall. He also reported that EAC will have a booth at Art in the Park 2-4 October. He will solicit and coordinate volunteers for these events.

Conservation Award update - A project manager is needed for this topic since Ms. Mulhern is no longer a member of the EAC.

Battery Recycling Update - Commissioner Monken reported that Santa Cruz County recycles car batteries, but other batteries they collect are treated as hazardous waste. He will contact the City and Cochise County about how they are handling batteries and hazardous waste.

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NEW BUSINESS

Joanne Roberts' application to be an Association Member of the EAC:

Commissioner Ehrenberger moved to accept Joanne Roberts' application.
Commissioner Kennedy second the motion,

Vote: Unanimous to accept (5-0)

Election of EAC Chair and EAC Co-Chair:

Commissioner Ehrenberger moved to elect Commissioner Kennedy as EAC Co-Chair for the period September 2015- August 2016. Commissioner Monken seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 For 1 Abstention

Commissioner Ehrenberger moved to elect Commissioner Wilcox as EAC Co-Chair for the period of September 2015- August 2016. Commissioner Monken seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 For 1 Abstention

FIELD TRIPS OR OTHER FUTURE ACTION ITEMS

Fort Huachuca Solar Program, October - Commissioner Kennedy will make the necessary arrangements. There was discussion about the length of time persons without government identification will need to gain access to the Fort.

McFadden Park - no date.

Ryan Kooi requested that the Commissioner let him know if they had any suggestions for future field trips.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC - REQUESTS OF THE COMMISSION

There was discussion about the "content" of the "Call to the Public." The Call to the Public is for the Public to make comments. It is not a two-way discussion between Commission members and the Public. Comments made during Call to the Public could become an agenda item at the next Commission meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - Next meeting: September 23, 2015 at 3:30 pm.