

# **Environmental Affairs Commission**

Regular meeting –Agenda  
Pedro Castro Public Works Administrative Building  
November 18, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER** Commissioner Kennedy called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm.

## **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  
Joanne Roberts

Council Liaison Present: Hank Huisking

Staff Liaison Present: Ryan Kooi, Public Works

Others Present: Ron Faulkner  
Shirley Faulkner

## **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Chairman Kennedy made a motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Ehrenberger seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF THE OCTOBER 28, 2015 MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 28, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Ehrenberger seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

## **COUNCIL LIAISON'S COMMENTS**

Councilperson Huisking gave a short report of the National League of Cities Winter Conference earlier in the month. There were not a lot of environmental issues addressed. The National Topics list is (1) Clean Water (2) Climate Resilience (3) EPA Regulations and (4) Clean Power Plants. Western Mayors'

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Environmental list is (1) Water (66%), (2) Recycling (26%), (3) Climate (12%), (4) Waste Water (14%), (5) Carbon and (6) Pollutions.

Councilperson Huisking also reported that Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director, has been doing "house cleaning" chores with City Ordinances. The City Ordinance dealing with nuisance properties (Resolution 2010-150) is being updated and will be posted on the City website. It will let citizens know what they can do to start the process to get "nuisance properties" to be in compliance with the updated resolution. The update will include provisions to deal with properties that have been foreclosed and are not in compliance (i.e. abandon cars, boarded up windows, overgrown plants, etc.). Currently there are 366 foreclosed properties, which will be registered and the owner (financial institutions) will be responsible to bring them into compliance with the updated resolution.

Councilperson Huisking reported that two new Code Enforcement persons had been hired and will begin working January 2016. She also stated Planning and Zoning is working on better oversight of cell phone towers. The City Council has been extremely unhappy with how cell phone towers, types, and locations were being determined. Previously there had been no discussion on what type or where the towers would be located. There will be new and stricter consideration concerning type and location of cell phone towers.

Councilperson Huisking mentioned that Jill Adams, City Clerk, would be conducting Open Meeting Law training for those who have not had the training. Councilperson Huisking queried those who needed the training if there was a preference for the training to be in the morning or afternoon.

Councilperson Huisking gave a report on the West End Clean Up date conducted on 24 October. Approximately 475 homes were cleaned up which resulted in over 10 tons of trash being hauled away. Sulger area was also included in the clean up.

## **STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS**

Ryan Kooi stated there were about 100 acres available at the Environmental Operations Park (EOP) for possible use as a "solar farm." Approximately \$250k is being spent on electricity at the EOP. This was in response to a question previously asked about availability of land at the EOP and cost of power at the EOP.

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**PRESENTATION** - None

**EAC CHAIR COMMENTS** - Nothing to report

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Property Clean Up - Nothing to Report

PV Solar – Commissioner Kennedy presented a draft presentation recommending action the City Council should take for use of PV Solar by the City. Several comments were made concerning what should be added, reasons why Sierra Vista should use PV Solar, and positive and negative impact of PV Solar. Chairman Kennedy will incorporate suggested changes and provide an updated version for approval at the EAC December meeting. The goal is to provide the presentation and recommendation to City Council in January 2016.

EAC Public Awareness - Commissioner Wilcox reported that on December 8, Commissioner Stalman, Associate EAC member Carter, and himself would have a brain storming session of what happened this year and what could be done next year. The meeting will be at the Pedro Castro Center building at 2 pm.

Award for Energy Conservation - Associate EAC Member Roberts is working to get previous work done on the Energy Conservation Award.

Battery Recycling Update - Commissioner Monken reported that approximately 2.5 gallons of batteries were collected at Art in the Park. The commission now has a “RED” recycle barrel to collect batteries in the future. Commissioner Monken hopes that future events will be advertised for battery recycling. Commissioner Monken will work on making a list of stores where batteries can be recycled.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

"Villages at Vigneto" in Benson – It was reported that the Benson City Manager would be happy to come and talk to the EAC or a Joint City Council/EAC meeting. Councilperson Huisling stated that the main issue the City has with the development is what will be the impact of traffic on Highway 90. It was suggested EAC members provide a list of concerns/questions concerning the “Villages at Vigneto.” EAC will discuss inviting Benson City Manager to the EAC at the December meeting. It was suggested that the CMMP be used as a base for questions.

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Vote to nominate Ron Faulkner to be appointed to the Environmental Affairs Commission.

Chairman Kennedy made a motion to approve Ron Faulkner's appointment to the EAC. Commissioner Ehrenberger seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

SSVEC Electric Rate Increases Discussion – Commissioner Ehrenberger made a motion to, "Request the City Council to formally promote the installation of roof top solar and at the same time express concern with the two tiered base rate proposal that SSVEC is requesting." Since there was no second, there was no discussion of the motion.

### **FIELD TRIPS OR OTHER FUTURE ACTION ITEMS**

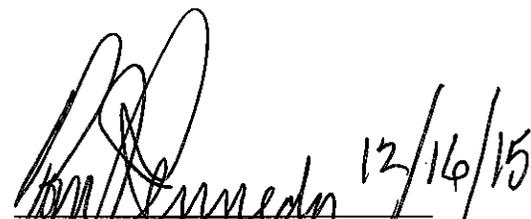
The field trip to the TEP solar farm on Ft. Huachuca is scheduled for 24 February 2016.

### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC-REQUESTS OF THE COMMISSION**

Not applicable

**ADJOURNMENT** - Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

**Next meeting: December 16, 2015 3:30 pm**

  
Tom Kennedy, Chairman  
Environmental Affairs Commission