

**Environmental Affairs Commission**  
Regular meeting Minutes  
Pedro Castro Public Works Administrative Building  
December 21, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER** – Commissioner Kennedy called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present:

Ron Faulkner  
Tom Kennedy  
Tait Wilcox  
Norm Patten  
George Monken  
Dennis Ehrenberger  
William Hargis

Associate Members Present:

Joanne Roberts  
Gene Fenstermacher

Associate Members Absent:

Amy Carter

Council Liaison

Hank Huisking

Staff Liaison Present:

Sharon Flissar, Director of Public Works

Others Present:

Jing Luo, City Engineer  
Bernie Stalman, Former EAC Commissioner  
David Grieshop, Planning & Zoning Commission

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Kennedy made the motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE November 16, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Kennedy made the motion to accept the minutes from the 16 November commission meeting. Commissioner Ehrenberger seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

**COUNCIL LIAISON'S COMMENTS**

Councilwoman Husking reported that commissioners will be invited to a welcoming of new council members on 12 January. The event will be held at the Mona Bishop Room at the Sierra Vista Library. More information will be forthcoming on this event.

She also stated how much she enjoyed being on the City Council and Council Liaison for several different commissions. She also recommended that commission members

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read the council executive report which provides a recap of each city department activities. She reported that there had been a backlog of over 1,100 code violations, but with an increase in personnel the backlog had been reduced by 88%. Since Simone McFarland, Sierra Vista Economic Development Manager, has accepted a job in California, there will be changes within the city staff.

Savor Sierra Vista will be 27-28 May. It will include a wine festival and a sky island mountain challenge. More information will be forth coming.

City Council will discuss street widening during the council January work session.

The city is working on annexation plans which would make it easier to annex properties when the land is sold in the future.

Since solid waste disposal is becoming costlier, the city is working on plans of how to adjust to the big increase in the county tipping fees.

Commissioner Ehrenberger made a comment concerning the recent decision of the City Council not to fund a "Man on the Corner" survey. He suggested that the City Council could get a better feel if they talked to the various commissions on topics of interest. Councilwoman Husking responded that the survey was voted down because they believed paying \$50 per person was too much and it was likely to have a limited number of responders. Council will explore other outreach efforts.

Commissioner Kennedy presented a certificate from the EAC thanking Councilwoman Husking for her efforts as Council Liaison to the EAC.

**STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS**

Director Flissar reported that she had forwarded the EAC recommendation for the city strategic plan and had received conformation they were received and will be included in the City Council's discussion.

Director Flissar replied to a question at the November's EAC meeting concerning the cost to residents for delivery of blue recycle bins. There is an initial cost of \$5 when refuse service is first established. This covers the cost of delivering refuse and recycle bins. If a recycle bin is not requested at that time, but later, there is NO charge to deliver the recycle bin.

The city has received a grant of \$35K from Water Infrastructure Financial Authority (WIFA) to conduct an energy audit of the EOP. Approval to accept the grant will be done at the Council's January meeting. The study will determine how efficient electrical power usage is at the EOP. There was some discussion of how this study would provide data if Sierra Vista decided to use solar power at the EOP.

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**EAC CHAIR COMMENTS**

Commissioner Kennedy reviewed EAC projects and EAC member assignments (see attachment).

Commissioner Kennedy stated that after talking with the Mayor, he understood that the WIFA grant would pay for a RFQ to be issued by the city concerning installation of solar power at the EOP. Director Flissar and City Engineer Jing Luo both stated that the grant would not pay for an RFQ. Commissioner Kennedy subsequently talked to the Mayor who clarified that the WIFA grant would not be used to prepare an RFQ.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Property Infill/Redevelopment** - Commissioner Patten said that he hoped the current study to improve the west end would not become just another false start like previous studies. There was some discussion concerning plans for the recently vacated K-Mart. There are several rumors that various local businesses have plans to use the vacant K-Mart; however there has been no official announcement nor queries to the Sierra Vista Community Development Department concerning the vacant K-Mart.

**PV Solar** – Commissioner Kennedy repeated his understanding that the WIFA grant was going to be used to prepare an RFQ for solar at the EOP. This was based on his meeting with the Mayor the previous week. Once again, his takeaway from the Mayor meeting was incorrect.

**Public Awareness** – Commissioner Wilcox had nothing to report.

**Environmental Merit Award Proposal** – Commissioner Ehrenberger led a discussion concerning the environmental merit award. The discussion included what the format should be when the proposal is forwarded to the City Council. Commissioner Monken made a motion to forward the Environmental Merit Award proposal to the City Council for their approval. Commissioner Ehrenberger seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

Director Flissar will ensure the EMA proposal is in the proper format and she will then forward it to the City Council. The EMA proposal does not include the “how to” of evaluating applications and this process will be developed by the EAC subtask group after the EMA is approved by Council.

**Battery Recycling** – Commissioner Monken is planning to have a battery recycling committee meeting after the first of the year to discuss topics that need to be addressed prior to forwarding a recommendation to the city council.

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**Glass Recycling** - Commissioner Ehrenberger reported he has scheduled a meeting with Richard Cayer, Operations Manager for Department of Public Works.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Council Sub-committee on Commissions** – Commissioners Faulkner, Kennedy and Monken provided comments on their impressions of first three council subcommittee meetings. The consensus was that the subcommittee based their preliminary recommendation on council member's opinion and not based upon any discussions with the commissions on what needed to be done. The council subcommittee ultimately decided to leave things the way they are.

During the discussion, it was learned the Sister City Commission will host the next all commission gathering on or about 24 January. More information will be forth coming.

**Water Management** – Commissioner Faulkner reviewed EAC's water subcommittee meeting. The main observation was that even with the interest in eliminating deficit and sustaining the aquifer/San Pedro River, there is no current tasking to the EAC from the City Council.

There was discussion on how the water subcommittee should proceed. It was felt that one of the hardest topics will be determining how much water is being recharged into the aquifer. Director Flissar will provide EAC members with a spreadsheet which shows the amount of water each water company is pumping.

The subcommittee will continue to obtain a better picture of water pumping and recharge as well as look at alternate water management plans for the city.

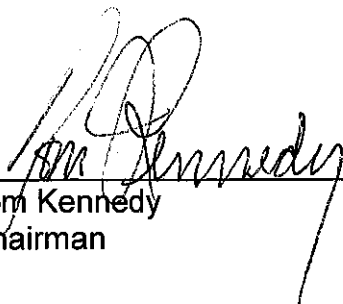
**FIELD TRIPS OR OTHER FUTURE ACTION ITEMS:**

West End bus tour – It was decided this tour will be revisited in the spring.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC** – There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Commissioner Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 4:54 PM.

**Next meeting: January 25, 2017 3:30 PM**

  
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Tom Kennedy  
Chairman

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**Attachment EAC Minutes 21 December 2016**

Updated EAC Project Assignments  
December 21, 2016

1. Property Infill/Redevelopment - Commissioner Patten
  - a. Commissioner Wilcox
  - b. Commissioner Kennedy
2. PV Solar - Commissioner Kennedy
  - a. Commissioner Wilcox
  - b. Commissioner Ehrenberger
  - c. Associate Member Roberts
  - d. Associate Member Carter
3. Public Awareness - Commissioner Wilcox
  - a. Commissioner Hargis
  - b. Commissioner Monken
  - c. Associate Member Carter
4. Battery Recycling - Commissioner Monken
  - a. Commissioner Hargis
  - b. Associate Member Carter
5. Glass Recycling – Commissioner Ehrenberger
  - a. Commissioner Monken
6. Environmental Award - Commissioner Ehrenberger
  - a. Associate Member Roberts
7. Water Management - Commissioner Faulkner
  - a. Commissioner Hargis
  - b. Associate Member Fenstermacher