

Environmental Affairs Commission
Regular meeting –Agenda
Pedro Castro Public Works Administrative Building
April 26, 2017

CALL TO ORDER - Commissioner Kennedy called the meeting to order at 3:31PM

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Ron Faulkner
Tom Kennedy
George Monken
Dennis Ehrenberger
William Hargis
Norm Patten

Members Absent: Tait Wilcox

Associate Members Present: Joanne Roberts
Amy Carter
Gene Fenstermacher

Council Liaison Gwen Calhoun, Council Member

Staff Liaison Present: Sharon Flissar, Director of Public Works

Others Present: Tricia Gerrodette – Huachuca Audubon

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Kennedy made a motion to accept the Agenda for the meeting.
Commissioner Patten seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE March 22, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Ehrenberger made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of 22 March 2017. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

COUNCIL LIAISON’S COMMENTS

Councilperson Calhoun updated the Commission concerning adjustments to Commissioners Terms. Commissioners who are due to rotate off the Commission during 2017 will be provided the opportunity to remain on through December. If e applicants for vacant positions are prior to December, and the term of those positions will be till December two years in the future. Until all Commissioner's terms start in January and end in December, some "new" Commissioner's terms will be two year and the number of months until December.

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STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS

Sharon Flissar reported that this month there has been a push to work on the City's Budget. State Revenue sharing figures have not been provided so final work on the budget cannot be completed until they are received.

Sharon also reported that the Council is still working on the Draft of City's Strategy Plan. She stated there were some Environmental goals to include alternative energy usage as well as exploring use of effluent waters when the agreement between the City and the Bureau of Reclamation expires in a few years. The agreement called for all effluent waters from the EOP to be used for aquifer recharge only. There was discussion concerning "alternative energy usage". The strategies are broad in nature to cover all possible sub-areas.

EAC CHAIR COMMENTS

Commissioner Kennedy discussed the EAC annual presentation to the City Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Property Infill/Redevelopment - Commissioner Patten didn't have anything to report. He stated that the Council needs to take steps on improving the West End. Councilperson Calhoun stated that the plan to renovate Fry Boulevard in the West End has been approved. She stated the challenge is to finance the plan.

PV Solar - Commissioner Kennedy expressed his frustration that the Mayor or City Council has not taken actions on the recommendation to install Solar at the EOP. This to a lengthy and heated discussion ensued concerning (1) remarks made at the presentation about the EAC being a Task Force vice a Commission (2) frustration concerning the Council is slow feedback to the Commissions and (3) why the City hasn't taken any action on the recommendation to install Solar at the EOP.

Several Commissioners express strong negative views concerning EAC potential of becoming a Task Force.

There was a heated discussion concerning why the City has not taken any action concerning installing Solar at the EOP. Councilperson Calhoun also expressed frustration that the City Council had not acted on recommendation from Commissions or even asked questions concerning recommendations.

There was also frustration expressed that the Council is slow with feedback to the Commissions. Councilperson Calhoun stated that the Council is working on procedures that will make communication between the Commissions and City Council more effective and efficient.

Councilperson Calhoun suggested that an approach might be for Commissions to present their recommendation at a City Council Work Session. This could provide a chance for direct dialogue between Commissions and City Council on recommendations. Questions could be asked by the City Council which might require additional research by the Commission. Once answers had been provided to the City Council during a Council Work

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Session would allow the City Council to decide to add the recommendation to a future City Council Meeting for a formal decision.

EAC Public Awareness - Nothing to Report

Environmental Merit Award - Commissioner Ehrenberger presented a draft Scorecard to evaluate applicants for the Environment Merit Award. There was a discussion concerning the "weights" of the various section. The consensus was that "weighting" was an acceptable way to score the applicants. Commissioner Ehrenberger ask for Commissioners to provide comments on the Draft. He will condense the Draft down to 1-2 pages. Commissioner Ehrenberger, Commissioner Hargis and Associate Commissioner Roberts will be the evaluators of the current Environmental Merit Award applications.

Battery Recycling – Commissioner Monken reported that he had not found a vendor who does battery recycling like some vendors are doing drug recycling. He stated there are many vendors who are accepting batteries via mail-in recycling. Commissioner Monken also reported that the City web site does list local business that collect batteries for recycling. The local business are listed under 4 types of batteries. The types listed were are (1) Automotive, (2) Lead Acid. (3) Rechargeable and (4) Rechargeable power tools batteries. He will check with Judy Hector of where/why these types were used which did not include "household batteries such as dry cell type batteries, cell phone, hearing aids, etc.

Glass Recycling - Nothing to report

Water Management – Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS

EAC sponsored April commission get together - Commissioner Ehrenberger reported the Commissions Meet and Greet went well. Several different Commissions express frustration about little or no feedback from City Council.

ADOT streets in town – Deferred till next EAC meeting.

Federal Reserve Water Rights Adjudication - Deferred till next EAC meeting.

FIELD TRIPS OR OTHER FUTURE ACTION ITEMS:

CALL TO THE PUBLIC – NTR

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM

Next meeting: May 24, 2017 3:30 PM