



SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION - SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, by Governor Newsom, this meeting was conducted by teleconference and there was no in-person public access to the meeting location.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Clark called the meeting to order at **5:02** p.m.

ROLL CALL: A quorum was present for this Special Meeting of the City of Palm Springs Sustainability Commission.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

	<u>This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2021/2022 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2021/2022 Unexcused Absences</u>
Roy Clark, Chair	X	56		
David Freedman	X	66		
Jennifer Futterman	E	45	2	
Greg Gauthier	E	43	2	
Carl Baker	X	32		
Jim Flanagan	E	23	1	
Sandra Garratt	X	20		
Alex Ocañas	X	6		
Jake Torrens	X	5	1	
Don Barrett	X	3		
Randy Evans	X	3		

X = Present

E = Excused (notified Chair and Staff of absence)

L = Late

U = Unexcused (did not notify of absence)

REPORT OF POSTING OF AGENDA: The Agenda was available for public access at the City Hall exterior bulletin board (west side of the Council Chambers) by 5:00 PM Thursday, September 30, 2021 and posted on the City's website as required by established policies and procedures.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA: Chair Clark asked if there were any objections to the agenda for the October 5, 2021 meeting. There were no objections, and the agenda was declared accepted.

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Tallarico, Manager, Office of Sustainability; Tracy Sheldon, Program Coordinator, Office of Sustainability

GUESTS PRESENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

A. Discussion of 5-year Strategic Planning Priorities

- Manager Tallarico shared the purpose of meeting was to consider updates to the Sustainability Master Plan to describe mid-term goals and actions (5 years) and to begin to identify how these might be integrated with the longer-term (20 year) vision in the General Plan. The group was also asked to discuss priorities for Council to consider for the next year.
- The Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Strategic Planning met on several occasions to review and suggest edits to the 2016 Sustainability Master Plan and presented their recommendations to the Commission. The Commission provided feedback on these proposed changes.

B. Consideration of Submitting Priorities/Areas of Focus for the City Council Visioning Session

- The Commission reviewed, discussed and decided on the following:
 - Brief Description of Board / Commission / Committee Charge:
 - Provide the City with advice and recommendations related to natural resource conservation; energy and water efficiency; waste management and recycling; and other natural resource management issues such as addressing climate change impacts. Also, provide input on community education and project funding options to facilitate implementation.
 - Significant Recent Accomplishments: Food Ware Ordinance, Leaf Blower Ordinance and Implementation, GHG Inventory Update, Sustainability Scholarship Program
- The Commission decided on the following priorities:
 - FY 2021-2022 Ongoing Priorities/Areas of Focus:
 - 1. Development and implementation of climate action roadmap and promote implementation efforts/behavior change. This will be accomplished by addressing the five (5) biggest contributors to GHG emissions: transportation, residential and commercial building energy use, water and wastewater and solid waste. Additionally, this aligns with State GHG reduction targets. The measurement of success will be through GHG reductions.
 - 2. Encourage alternative transportation use through pilots and additional research. The rationale is that transportation is our biggest contributor to GHG emissions and to encourage behavioral change. The measurement of success will be through changes in transportation decisions.
 - 2022 New Priorities/Areas of Focus:
 - 1. Water use reduction was identified as a new priority given water scarcity in the face of climate change, including drought and reduced water allocation. The measurement of success will be to reduce water use consumption by the City, residents and businesses.
 - 2. Implementation of SB 1383 was also identified as a new priority. It is a State requirement and contributes to GHG emission reductions. The measurement of success will be through establishing an Ordinance and providing service to all residents and businesses.
 - Activities that Could Be Deferred, Referred, or Eliminated:
 - Community Garden (Move to Parks & Recreation and encourage new garden on the North end.)
 - Sustainable Economy topics (Move to Economic Development).
 - Critical Organizational Changes Needed:
 - Engage other departments more formally in sustainability efforts, especially coordination within Development Services. Reimagine Development Services as Sustainable Development Services focused on climate change adaptation and mitigation. Improve integration of Sustainability into General Plan.
 - Hire at least two (2) additional staff members and consultants on an as-needed basis.
 - Process Improvements:
 - Need more direct input from City Council. Get input from Council subcommittees or liaisons on major policy proposals prior to bringing them to City Council.
 - Integrate larger sustainability project funding into General Fund allocations (e.g., funding for large-scale turf conversion efforts).

C. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting of the Sustainability Commission adjourned at **7:34** p.m. They adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the Sustainability Commission to be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, location to be determined. There is a possibility that the next meeting will be via telecommunication also. The Sustainability Commission's regular meeting schedule is at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday each month except August unless otherwise noted or amended.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Tallarico, Manager, Office of Sustainability