



City of Goodyear

See meeting location
below

Meeting Minutes

Water Conservation Committee

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

6:00 PM

Goodyear City Hall
190 N. Litchfield Rd.
Goodyear, AZ 85338

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Columbia called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Faiello, Committee Member Gilmore, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll, Committee Member Smith and Committee Member Teiche

Excused: 2 - Alternate Lagunas and Alternate Neith

MOTION BY Committee Member Gilmore, SECONDED BY Committee Member Faiello, to EXCUSE Alternate Committee Members Lagunas and Neith from the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 11 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Faiello, Committee Member Gilmore, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll, Committee Member Smith and Committee Member Teiche

Staff Present: Water Resources Manager Mark Holmes and Water Resources Planning Advisor Gretchen Erwin

Others Present: Facilitator Teresa Makinen and her assistant Anne Morton

3. APPROVE MINUTES

- 3.1 [MINUTES](#) Approve draft minutes of the Water Conservation Committee meeting held on
[05-2017](#) December 20, 2016.

MOTION BY Committee Member Minarik, SECONDED BY Committee Member Gilmore, to APPROVE draft minutes of the Water Conservation Committee meeting held on December 20, 2016. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 11 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Faiello, Committee Member Gilmore, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll, Committee Member Smith and Committee Member Teiche

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS/ APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

Water Resources Manager Holmes received a comment from a citizen that was unable to attend the meeting and he provided it on her behalf. Sharon Girulat, DBA SG & Associates, requested that the committee consider the suggestion that Homeowner Associations (HOAs) should work together for regional efforts for water conservation, both for the use of water and the cost to the HOA and residents.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Meeting Schedule and Administration

Facilitator Makinen thanked the committee members for submitting their RSVPs for the tour of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS). To date, two members are unable to attend, six requested the full day tour, three requested the half day tour and two have yet to RSVP.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Presentations and Discussion

6.1.1 Discussion on Developing Information for Council Progress Update and Committee Recommendations

Water Resources Manager Holmes said that there are three ways to provide the update to Council: 1.) During a Work Session, 2.) As a communication item during a Council Meeting, or 3.) a Yellow Paper. After considering the three, it was decided that the best means would be via a communication item at the beginning of the February 27th meeting. The update would be approximately 10 minutes and he reminded the committee that information can be communicated but no business could take place during the presentation. In the event committee members were unable to attend, they could watch it via live stream.

Chairman Columbia said that they would provide an update and to decide on the content for the presentation, the committee would review the “parking lot” items and narrow down the list to three topics to touch on for Council.

Vice Chairman Barber said that at the last meeting the committee said they wanted to say who the committee is and provide the background. Her suggestion was to say that in the seven meetings held so far, they’ve taken field trips and heard from staff and learned where the city is now, what the demands are, and what the wishlist from the staff would be. The committee is still in the learning process; however, there are several recurring themes and priorities.

Facilitator Makinen said that in addition to the “Parking Lot”, there are the staff considerations that were distributed, and suggested the committee first review the “Parking Lot” list items to see if they were all still relevant. Each item was discussed and rather than removed, some were added into other broader topics. Committee Member Moll said that in several instances over the last several months, he’s heard suggestions for new regulations and new inspections for builders and developers. He is not comfortable with the notion of this group recommending those changes without first hearing from those industries and those effected regarding the cost, the amount of reduction to water use, enforceability and availability of technology required. They should at least be invited to address the committee. Moll said he wanted to make his position known as the committee moves forward to help frame future discussions.

Holmes reviewed the staff considerations. He suggested to the committee that when they think about the recommendations, to think big. While some things will be easier to implement and should be, the committee can make comprehensive recommendations. When recommendations are made, Council will want to know who are you impacting and what is the return? Pilot programs are good for determining that. Additionally, anything the committee develops that costs money is driven by rates and will compete with other programs. The committee will need to consider funding, administration, project management, what they want as a return, perhaps modeling will be needed, etc.

Columbia said that it seems the “Parking Lot” items are covered by the staff considerations. There was some discussion about whether to merge the two lists together but it was decided to keep them separate for this meeting.

The committee members discussed the information that could be included in the update to Council. Holmes reminded the committee that it should just be an update about what they are working on and not recommendations.

6.1.2 Committee Discussion on Recommendation Topics Generated and Preliminary Development of Recommendations

Facilitator Makinen reviewed the process chart for developing recommendations. Next, she asked the committee members to take five data cards and to provide their top five important items for consideration in the development of recommendations. The cards were collected and categorized into like topics as noted below, and the members prioritized the order of priority for the follow-on committee discussions over the next few meetings, as follows:

Priority Group 1

- Education
- Homeowner services (city offerings for homeowners, i.e. audits, leak detection, etc)
- Public awareness to urgency to act today
- Education and awareness - checkups
- City setting the water use trend/example
- Educate homeowners on conservation
- Proactive way to address water in the street
- Educate and encourage smart water use by homeowners & HOAs

- Plan for usage awareness
- Improve (improves the practice of water management)
- Reduce (reduce wastage)

Priority Group 2

- Prevent (prevents damaging water quality)
- Controller: Smart Irrigation - city and HOA
- Technology including electronics, pool covers, filters, leak detection
- Technology to help control water use
- How to reduce heat island effect without using more water
- Technology pilots
- Dual metering and neighborhood water use comparisons

Priority Group 3

- Effective landscape architecture to conserve water
- Comprehensive landscape design
- No winter overseed
- Landscape design criteria: types, qualities, placement
- Reduce water usage in commercial and streetscapes
- Survey to determine best landscape design for entire city
- Update low water use landscape material (lower use grass, plants)
- Off-site landscape criteria vs. on-site landscape criteria (private vs public)
- Design guidelines: trees, landscape, garden project, engineering
- City-wide tree plan
- Xeriscape requirements city & HOA

Priority Group 4

- Analysis
- ROI modeling, capability & methodology (process)
- What will it cost financially and politically to make changes vis-à-vis new regulations?
- Rate analysis to encourage water conservation
- Pilot programs

Priority Groups 5 (3-way tie)

- HOA Outreach
- HOAs education, design, maintenance
- HOA Water Conservation
- HOA Conservation
- Swimming pool water conservation
- Swimming pool filter type & covers
- Effect of city policies on water use
- Development guidelines/regulations for best available technology on new or improved industrial/commercial property
- Residential development standards

REMAINING CARDS, NOT INCLUDED IN TOP 5 PRIORITIES

- Acknowledgement of climate change and therefore presume future that is hotter and dryer
- Update current conservation plan
- Update conservation plan
- Clean & reuse flushed water/capture construction water
- Management to “recycle” water: pools, rain, etc
- Create partner list for pilot projects (resource)
- Collaboration with partners: HOAs, builders, Liberty Water, schools
- Incentive programs
- Incentives for consumers
- Incentives: H2Ownit, curtailment plan

Once the topics were narrowed down and prioritized as noted above, the committee agreed that they would focus on concepts for group 1 and potentially group 2, if time allows, at next month’s meeting. Makinen asked if the committee had enough information to discuss concepts or if they need more information from staff. Barber asked if current city programs, and current programs from other cities and/or states that might work be discussed at the next meeting. Committee Member Smith referred to a couple of studies he is familiar with from Israel and Australia for which he will send the information to Makinen to distribute.

Makinen asked if there was any additional information needed for the group 2 discussion. Holmes said he could bring the operator to provide an update on the technology pilot (CantaMia Project) to provide an update.

The committee members discussed cost and analysis as potential subtopics for each group. Makinen said that she hopes they don’t preclude any discussions due to concern over costs.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

Committee Member Smith asked if there is a plan to fill Sandra Rode’s position. Holmes said that they’ve updated the job description and included a request for an additional full time employee for the City Manager’s review.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Columbia adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mario Columbia, Chairman

Date: _____