



City of Goodyear

See meeting location
below

Meeting Minutes

Water Conservation Committee

Tuesday, May 16, 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: 10 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Gilmore, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll, Committee Member Smith and Committee Member Teiche

Excused: 1 - Committee Member Faiello

Staff Present: Water Resources Manager Mark Holmes, Water Demand Advisor Ray Diaz, Water Resources Planning Advisor Gretchen Erwin

Others Present: Facilitator Teresa Makinen and her assistant Anne Morton

MOTION BY Committee Member Kagan, SECONDED BY Committee Member Booth, to EXCUSE Committee Member Faiello from the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 10 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Gilmore, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll, Committee Member Smith and Committee Member Teiche

Excused: 1 - Committee Member Faiello

3. APPROVE MINUTES

- 3.1 [MINUTES](#) [37-2017](#) Approve draft minutes of the Water Conservation Committee meeting held on April 18, 2017.

Committee Member Minarik said page five, last paragraph, line four, his intent was that “Committee Member Minarik feels that the Committee needs to set out the problem as it sees it; and use it as a foundation for its recommendations”.

MOTION BY Committee Member Teiche, SECONDED BY Committee Member Gilmore, to APPROVE draft minutes of the Water Conservation Committee meeting held on April 18, 2017 with noted changes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 10 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Gilmore, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll, Committee Member Smith and Committee Member Teiche

Excused: 1 - Committee Member Faiello

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS/ APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

None.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Meeting Schedule and Administration

Committee Chairman Columbia said since July the Committee has had several informative presentations and there have also been meetings where Committee members have presented information to support the Committee's goals. He thanked Committee Members Smith and Minarik and reviewed the information they recently provided for the Committee. He believes the "how" in creating recommendations will come down to three categories - 1.) Voluntary, 2.) Incentives, and 3.) Regulatory. He reminded the Committee that after tonight, there are just ten more meetings so it is time to focus on the goal of creating the recommendations.

Facilitator Makinen said they are just waiting on one more form for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station tour in September. The date will likely be confirmed at their next meeting which will be held in August. There will not be a meeting in June or July, because the Committee is to meet only ten times per year.

Committee Member Smith said that the purpose of the documents he created is to organize the information and provide a format to compile what has been done.

Committee Member Minarik said that he spoke with Water Resources Manager Holmes to make sure his numbers were correct and he corrected two of them. Minarik said that after he and Holmes spoke, he was supposed to speak with Economic Development to get their numbers but he hasn't yet. The numbers they are currently using are the most aggressive and they can always be adjusted if necessary. Minarik said he doesn't think the Committee should rely on the city's numbers or on what an outside consultant tells them, they should have their own independent assessment of what the future looks like. Committee Member Kagan agreed and said that she believes it behooves them to be somewhat alarmist to assure what they are trying to do is carried forward.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Committee Discussion on Recommendation Topics and Concepts

Facilitator Makinen said it was time to get into developing recommendations. She briefly

reviewed the documents titled: Committee Member Data Cards and Priorities from January 2017 Meeting and Water Conservation Committee Staff Considerations for Discussion. Makinen said that Water Resources Manager Holmes and Water Demand Advisor Diaz created a template of what a recommendation could look like or what it could include and then she asked if anyone had any questions. Committee Member Kaino said the Committee's by-laws state that one of their duties is to review the staff considerations.

Makinen reminded the Committee that previously they had agreed to start with "single family homes". She then suggested they start with an end goal and then work backwards from there. Committee Member Kagan asked if it would be valuable to consider a percentage reduction in total water usage annually per household as the goal and then provide recommendations with how to get there. Holmes reminded the Committee that their by-laws direct them to focus on outdoor water use. Chairman Columbia asked if outdoor versus indoor usage is reflected on the residents' bills. Holmes said it isn't broken out. Based on that, any reduction reflected in the usage would be from both indoor and outdoor usage. Holmes agreed but added that, particularly for newer homes, their indoor usage is far more efficient than outdoor usage so it is tough to reduce much indoors. It was suggested that they could do a pilot program that looks at data to determine indoor vs outdoor usage. While that could take several years, the by-laws do allow for this to become a standing committee and come back to meet when the data is available.

Makinen asked how detailed or prescriptive the recommendations need to be. Holmes said they could be detailed or broad; however, they would have to decide how the Committee wants Council to implement the recommendation. How would it be funded? How would it be staffed? Holmes added that he can assist with some of those details.

Makinen asked if everyone agreed to start with a percentage reduction. Committee Member Moll said he struggles with the "annual basis" concept since if residents reduce usage and then new homes incorporate efficiencies, then the reduction won't likely continue on an annual basis. He added that there are really two different areas - one is how home landscaping uses water which can be impacted by technology or other efficiencies but the other is human behavior toward water usage which would apply to everyone regardless of the age of their home or its efficiencies.

After some discussion, the committee agreed to review each item on the document created by Committee Member Smith, under the usage type of "Outdoor Landscaping" for Single-Family users to decide which items to include in their recommendation. After reviewing the items, it was agreed that the following would be included:

- Homeowners Services: Audits, leak detection
- Smart Irrigation, AMI, controllers, sensors
- Landscape Design Criteria: types, qualities, placement, plant and tree selection
- No winter over seeding for turf
- Opt-in for water turn-offs without permission program
- Outdoor water conservation incentive pilot program
- Expand home irrigation checkups

Next, the group discussed some of the items selected in greater detail, partially to determine if some could be combined, for example, audits could fall under AMI since with the proper software, leaks could be identified through the AMI. Additionally, flow sensors, which would likely be utilized only by the consumer to manage usage since they are beyond the meter, could also identify leaks or higher than typical water usage. This could be a pilot program or an incentive could be offered.

For landscape design criteria, Moll referred to the residential design guidelines that were adopted in or around 2012. To what extent is the city currently enforcing them and how are issues being caught in the revision process. Holmes said he could look into it. Moll said he could also speak with some builders to see what their experience is during their processes with the city.

Another suggestion was to train volunteers to conduct home irrigation checkups.

Makinen suggested staff take this information and review it prior to the next meeting. Staff can provide additional information to refine the recommendations, and add cost or resource information to help the committee finalize their information in the final report. This information can be used as a base for further discussions and creating further recommendations.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Columbia adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mario Columbia, Chairman

Date: _____