



Meeting Minutes

Water Conservation Committee

Tuesday, August 15, 2017

6:00 PM

Goodyear City Hall, Room 117
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: 8 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll and Committee Member Smith

Excused: 3 - Committee Member Faiello, Committee Member Gilmore and Committee Member Teiche

Staff Present: Water Resources Manager Mark Holmes, Water Demand Advisor Ray Diaz, Water Resources Planning Advisor Gretchen Erwin, Public Works Director Javier Setovich

MOTION BY Committee Member Minarik, SECONDED BY Committee Member Kagan, to EXCUSE Committee Member Arthur Faiello, Committee Member Jack Gilmore and Committee Member Pete Teiche from the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll and Committee Member Smith

Excused: 3 - Committee Member Faiello, Committee Member Gilmore and Committee Member Teiche

3. **APPROVE MINUTES**

3.1 [MINUTES](#) Approve draft minutes of the Water Conservation Committee meeting held on May 16, 2017.
[59-2017](#)

MOTION BY Committee Member Smith, SECONDED BY Committee Member Booth, to APPROVE draft minutes of the Water Conservation Committee meeting held on May 16, 2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Chairman Columbia, Vice Chairman Barber, Committee Member Booth, Committee Member Kagan, Committee Member Kaino, Committee Member Minarik, Committee Member Moll and Committee Member Smith

Excused: 3 - Committee Member Faiello, Committee Member Gilmore and Committee Member Teiche

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS/ APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

None.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Meeting Schedule and Administration

Facilitator Makinen said we are back after several months off and she hopes the committee members have had a chance to read the information that was sent out over the summer. She distributed a list of dates for upcoming meetings; however, noted that the meeting time listed should read 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, not 8:30 pm. The asterisk by the meetings in the months of November and December reflect that these meeting dates are close to holidays and the committee can change these dates if needed.

Makinen reminded the committee members where they left off in May by briefly reviewing the document created by Committee Member Smith and noted that the committee then focused on single family homes. There were five or six initial recommendations provided to city staff who took this information to create a draft of each recommendation in template form for the committee to use as a starting point in developing further recommendations.

And since the last meeting, Committee Member Minarik worked on developing a problem statement. Minarik asked for input from the committee as he had identified three different sources for projected population numbers and all three were very different: 1.) The City's numbers, provided by MAG and also referenced in the August 16th presentation to the committee, projects there will be about 265,000 people in 2040; 2.) In 2006, WESTCAPS projected there would be about 320,000 people in 2040, and while this number seems much higher, they also projected where we'd be today and that number is very close to the census numbers from 2015; 3.) The Integrated Master Plan projected about 150,000 people in the year 2040 which is the lowest of the three projections. Minarik said the committee needs to pick which population project they'd like to use for Minarik to run a model, or he could run models for all three. Committee Chairman Columbia said he thinks they should run all three models, WESTCAPS is the closest but what about the lowest? Minarik asked why they wouldn't go with the most dire one? Columbia said he thinks if they go with the high-end projection, they may get pushback; however, if they go with all three, it would be considerate of other projections. Makinen asked what the model run would ultimately tell the committee and Minarik replied that the model run will tell us the projected year when all of the credits will have been used. After some discussion, it was agreed that all three models would be run to include information on the sources used for projections and the range of projections demonstrating that they are sound sources. Minarik will run the three models and prepare a handout for the next committee meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Committee Discussion on Council Recommendation Topics and Concepts

Facilitator Makinen said it was time to get back into discussing recommendations. Water Resources Manager Holmes told the committee that if they have a recommendation, not to worry about filling in all the details; City staff will do that and bring it back to the committee for review.

Makinen reminded the committee that previously they reviewed “Single Family Home - Outdoor Landscaping” from the matrix developed by Committee Member Smith, and the next topic is “Single Family Homes - Pools & Spas”. The primary issues are due to evaporation, backwashing loss and drainage loss. Holmes said the rate of evaporation is approximately 98” per year in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area so in most cases, that equates to the entire pool evaporating every year.

There was extensive discussion regarding pool covers and whether they should be mandated and how that would work considering the cost to the owner - particularly if they need to be custom made for irregular shapes, the inability to efficiently enforce their use and the resistance such a regulation would receive. The committee also discussed offering an incentive for their use or encouraging their use through educating pool owners on the benefits of using them. It was agreed that the City would see what other cities are doing for incentives to reduce water use through pools and spas and create a cost/benefit analysis for the committee to consider.

The committee continued to discuss ideas, particularly pertaining to new homes being built and the builders potentially informing the consumer of the options and benefits of covers, different filters, etc.

Committee Member Jack Gilmore arrived at 7:11 p.m.

Holmes said a lot of this would go away if the Committee were to say that developers should reduce the number of pools until eventually there are only community pools. If the recommendation is to never touch the number of pools, then the conversation needs to change. In the spirit of encouraging discussion, Committee Vice Chairman Barber asked about regulating pool size or other strategies for managing pool usage, such as pool covers. Committee Member Moll said that regulating the number of pools isn’t necessarily a function of the developer or homebuilder since you can install a pool anytime. The committee further discussed community pools versus pools at individual homes. Holmes mentioned that in New Mexico, there are places where each home has an allotment of water they are permitted to use each month and there are penalties if they exceed that number.

Makinen said it sounded like the committee needs more information before they can develop recommendations. She said that next they’ll get the model information and she asked City staff if they could develop information on the incentives discussed by the next meeting.

Holmes asked the committee members if any were afraid of recommending reducing the number of pools in the future. Three members confirmed they were. Holmes said if the recommendation is an incentive as a way to govern pools, or a way for developers to approach HOAs regarding pools and other water usage, then the City could develop the details or the recommendation may even include

the creation of another committee to work on this topic.

Committee Member Minarik then asked if any of the committee members were afraid to create an allotment system. Moll said he'd be extraordinarily skeptical of that but that he'd look at it with an open mind. For builders in Arizona, they are required to have a Certificate of Assured Water Supply which is not paralleled anywhere else in the country. Moll added that he is also afraid to mandate reducing the number of pools because the message would be that Goodyear is in the business of banning pools because they're out of water; it's bad for economic development. Homebuilders market the Arizona lifestyle and he'd hate to see that damaged by this committee.

Makinen asked the committee members if they'd like for the recommendation to be that there should be another committee assembled which would look at pool water usage. All members agreed. City staff will put together a strawman for the next meeting.

Makinen told the committee members that their homework is to review the next topic and gather their thoughts for the next meeting. She reminded them about the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station tour scheduled for September 15th and said she'd send further details to the members.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Columbia adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Mario Columbia, Chairman

Date: _____