



DRAFT

SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES
City of Scottsdale
Environmental Quality Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
5:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 15, 2016
Scottsdale Community Design Studio
7506 E Indian School Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Alisa McMahon, Chair
Steven Schlosser, Vice-Chair
Michel Hulst, Board Member (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)
Arnold Siegel, Board Member
Dane Englert, Board Member

ABSENT: Bruce Travers, Board Member
Candice Gimbel, Board Member

STAFF PRESENT: Anthony Floyd, Office of Environmental Initiatives
Sam Brown, Office of Environmental Initiatives

Call to Order:

Chair McMahon called the regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB) to order at 5:35 p.m.

Roll Call:

A formal roll call took place confirming the members present as stated above.

Public Comment:

None provided. Four members of the public were present including Vice-Mayor Cathy Littlefield and past Councilman Bob Littlefield. Vice-Mayor Littlefield spoke during agenda item #6.

1. [Approval of Summarized Meeting Minutes](#) – Regular Meeting: Chair McMahon,
April 20, 2016. Possible action & Board

MOTION AND VOTE – ITEM # 1

Board Member Englert provided a motion to approve the April 20, 2016 Regular Meeting Summarized Meeting Minutes as submitted, Vice-Chair Schlosser provided a second to the motion; **MOTION**

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APPROVED 5-0

2. **Possible cancelation of meeting for summer recess – Discussion** Chair McMahon
and possible action

No action was taken

The Board determined to meet on July 20, 2016; however, following the meeting it was determined that there would not be a quorum. For that reason the Board will not meet in July.

3. Administrative Report – Discussion

Tim Conner,
Anthony Floyd,
Sam Brown, &
Board Members

- **Updates and opportunities** – no discussion
- **Salt-Free Water Softener Rebate Program update** – no discussion
- **Update on March meeting citizen comment** – Mr. Brown provided an update of his conversation with the citizen and believes the citizen's concerns were satisfied with the information provided.
- **Water Campus solar support letter update** – Chair McMahon stated that the draft will be signed and included in the City Council packet, and there is an opportunity to visit the site to view the project when constructed (assuming the Council approves the project). There was general discussion about the “smart” battery storage which will shave peak demand, thus reducing APS demand charges. It was noted that this will be the first municipal combined battery storage and solar installation in the state.
- **Content of future Scottsdale Water presentation** – Chair McMahon & Board

Prevent evaporation from bodies of water using floating solar arrays or other methods to preserve surface water in addition to looking for new sources of water.

Water/Energy nexus

Status of Planet Ranch

Final analysis of Salinity Reduction Rebate Pilot Program

Chair will submit her list to the Staff Liaison to include in the communication with Scottsdale Water.

- **Green Building Lecture update** – Floyd
Jan Green, a Green Realtor, presented the final lecture of the

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season. Planning is underway for next season. A question about “Well Building” standards followed the lecture discussion.

Mr. Floyd also stated that the City recently received Energy Star Certification for the One Civic Center Building. This is the second City building that OEI has submitted for Energy Star certification.

4. **Environmental Achievement Recognition Program: Report on City Council presentation to Hyatt Regency Gainey Ranch – Discussion** Chair McMahon

The Chair referenced the thank you letter for the artist, Paul Diefenderfer, who created and donated the award. Photos will be brought to the next meeting. The award was designed from the concept of the Hyatt’s Environmental Program logo, a recycling tree.

The presentation to the Council is included in tonight’s packet.

Following up on water softening at the Hyatt, the Chair explained that a meeting between the Hyatt Regency engineer and a national representative from the Water Quality Association had been scheduled in May. The meeting did not take place due to schedule changes. Efforts are being made to reschedule.

The Chair expressed disappointment about the lack of media response to the City’s press release about the Hyatt award. The Vice-Chair suggested a greater push be made to get the information out to the public on the next award.

The Chair stated that the Mayor came down prior to the council meeting to thank the Board for the Drought Management Plan Advisory and the Hyatt presentation.

5. **Idle Reduction Resource Packet: Update progress of the resource packet for idle reduction during student pick up and drop off at Scottsdale schools and the Board’s Cover Memo to City Council. Discuss next steps for EQAB. – Discussion and possible action** Board Member Gimbel, & Chair McMahon

No action was taken

The Chair explained that due to the recycling issue and her work schedule, the document has not been completed. The cover letter for the packet is last missing piece. She asked the board if they wanted to

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wait until the next meeting to review and possibly approve the final document, or if the board would like to approve the intent of the cover letter tonight and allow the Chair to complete the letter and the balance of the packet. Vice-Chair Schlosser acknowledged the Chair's offer as a motion and provided a second to the motion. No formal vote took place. There was a general consensus to allow the Chair complete the packet without bringing it back to the board for further review.

Chair McMahon stated that Rachel Smetana, the Mayor's Chief of Staff, has offered to use her contacts within the Arizona Charter Schools Association to distribute the packets. Additionally, the Chair noted that members of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) Arizona Green Schools Committee presented at the May Green Building Lecture. She approached the speakers about joining forces in supporting this issue, specifically sponsoring a challenge to local schools to find local solutions. The speakers responded enthusiastically about USGBC Green Schools Committee participation.

6. **Commercial Recycling Rate Increase: Report on status of Board's Memo to City Council and May 17 Council vote. Discuss commercial recycling in Scottsdale and next steps for EQAB. – Discussion and possible action**

Chair McMahon
& Board
Members Englert
& Gimbel

No action was taken

The Chair allowed this item to be heard out of sequence after item number 3 to allow Vice-Mayor Littlefield to provide comments.

Vice-Mayor Littlefield provided complementary remarks and thanks regarding the Board's memorandum on commercial recycling and the discussion provided by the Chair and Board Member Englert at the May 17, 2016 City Council Meeting.

A discussion regarding the outcome of the council meeting continued after the Vice-Mayor left. The Chair observed that the Council adopted EQAB's proposed three-point action plan and expressed the critical importance of providing an alternative action to the rate increase. Council's action provides for the development of a Vision and Strategic Plan.

There was discussion about how the Board should proceed in possibly assisting Solid Waste to achieve Council's direction.

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7. **Drought Management Plan Advisory: Report on transmission to City Council of the Board's *Drought Management Plan Advisory* and meeting with Mayor – Discussion and possible action**

Chair McMahon

No action was taken

The Chair pointed out that the Advisory was included in the packet. She received a request from the Mayor to meet about the document. The Chair and Board Member Englert met with Mayor Lane in May. The Mayor favored the Board's first recommendation, but not so much the second. With respect to the first, he asked that the Board follow up with specific recommendations that Scottsdale could participate in, and expressed interest in taking those recommendations forward to the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA).

The Chair summarized that she attended the ADWR/CAP briefing the day after meeting with the Mayor, and discussions are currently in process that could lead to a mechanism for Scottsdale's participation along the lines favored by the Mayor. She also indicated that she is awaiting a paper from the ASU Decision Center for a Desert City (DCDC) which she plans to transmit to the Mayor when it becomes available.

A general discussion ensued regarding the latest information about drought conditions and Lake Mead elevation.

8. **Desert Discovery Center: Consider EQAB recommendation on green building aspects of the proposed Desert Discovery Center, if built – Discussion and possible action**

Chair McMahon

The Chair provided a draft letter that was composed by Anthony Floyd regarding the Desert Discovery Center. The concept is to suggest that the DDC be a transparently green facility. One example of how this might be accomplished is the use of integrated art to demonstrate the principles of green building incorporated into the facility. The Desert Living Center at the Springs Preserve in Las Vegas is such an example.

Chair McMahon noted that now is the time to submit comments that will be shared with the architects working on the current planning phase. She also noted that EQAB's recommendation should not take a position in support of or opposition to the DDC. Nor, should it take a position about the location of the DDC. EQAB's comment would relate solely to

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how the DDC should be designed and constructed if the project goes forward.

MOTION AND VOTE – ITEM # 8

Chair McMahon moved to finalize a letter of recommendation regarding design of the Desert Discovery Center to showcase green building techniques as a part of the educational aspects of the facility. A second was provided by Vice-Chair Schlosser. **MOTION APPROVED 5-0**

9. **White Paper for alternative water softener technologies: Update progress for the final draft white paper “Scottsdale Unsalted”: A Review of Alternative Salt-Free Water Treatment Technologies for Effective Salinity Management and the Board’s Cover Memo to City Council – Discussion and possible action**

Chair McMahon,
Vice-Chair
Schlosser, &
Board Member
Englert

The Chair explained that she has researched the Water Quality Association’s Gold Seal Certification presented to EQAB at the February meeting by Ryan Harper on behalf of the Water Quality Association (WQA) and the Arizona Water Quality Association. She found that WQA’s Gold Seal Certification did not attest to full compliance with NSF 44, but rather to whatever portions of NSF 44 the manufacturer chose to comply with. Mr. Harper subsequently confirmed to the Chair that WQA tests only for the claims the manufacturer makes, and if the manufacturer does not make efficiency claims, the product is not tested to the efficiency requirements in NSF 44. Thus, softeners can receive Gold Seal Certification without meeting NSF 44 efficiency standards. The Chair noted that California does have efficiency requirements. Chair McMahon also spoke with someone at NSF International and found that NSF 44 does not cover the new softener systems with smart algorithms. She summed up that requiring Gold Seal Certification for softeners sold and installed in Scottsdale should not be one of EQAB’s salinity reduction recommendations to City Council.

In hopes of working toward a more regional solution, the Chair contacted AMWUA members to find out what they are thinking and doing about salinity issues. Their responses were not encouraging. The Chair will compile the responses to share at the next EQAB meeting.

Chair McMahon reiterated we need solid recommendations to complete this project.

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Board Member Siegel asked if anyone at Maricopa County could help. Chair McMahon said she had reached out to the County and discovered that this is not an issue they deal with.

Vice-Chair Schlosser said at least as a City Board EQAB should make a recommendation to ban timer regeneration water softeners.

Board Member Englert said that there are several salt-free alternatives provided in the white paper, so EQAB would not be suggesting a timer regeneration ban without having alternative options. He related the issues to the statewide requirement that all new pool pumps be installed as variable speed. He suggested the Board should study the state pool pump statute to see if it could possibly be used as a model.

Vice-Chair Schlosser volunteered to draft recommendations and send them to Mr. Conner for distribution. He went on to state that we could begin with sending them to the City Council and then possibly escalate the recommendations to the State Legislature. Board Member Hulst cautioned to not over step the Board's jurisdiction.

Chair McMahon suggested that the Mayor could take the Board's recommendations to AMWUA. Board Member Englert suggested that this might be the right recommendation to send to the Mayor in response to his request from the meeting with the Chair and Board Member Englert.

Board Member Englert volunteered to research the pool pump legislation.

10. Board Members' reports, updates and suggestions for future agenda items – Discussion

Chair McMahon,
& Board
Members

11. Updates and reminders –

- Next EQAB Regular Meeting Wednesday, August 17, 2016. Meeting to be held at the Community Design Studio 5:30 p.m. – Documents related to this meeting will be due to Tim Conner – tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov by the close of business Monday August 15, 2016
- Green Building Lecture Series is on summer break until October 2016

Chair McMahon,
& Board
Members

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Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, the
Environmental Quality Advisory Board adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Chair McMahon