



**1. Call to Order/Roll Call and Announcements:**

The meeting of the Environmental Quality and Sustainability Commission (EQSC) was called to order with a roll call at 3:03 p.m. There were 10 members present at roll call. The following commissioners arrived after the initial roll call:

- Josh Bendor
- Kevin Groman
- Sarah Porter

Chair Colin Tetreault called for announcements from commissioners and staff. No announcements were made. Chair Tetreault recommended participants to mute their respective microphones while not speaking.

**2. Review and approval of February 13, 2020 Minutes:**

**ACTION:**

Commissioner Kelly Barr made a motion to approve the February 13, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Caroline Lobo seconded the motion and it carried 10:0.

**3. Public Comment – No one spoke:**

Chair Tetreault indicated that attendees wishing to offer comments to feel free to do so. There were no public comments.

**4. Urban Heat Island**

Chair Tetreault discussed the history and successes of the Tree and Shade Committee. He spoke about the recommendations that included a text amendment, the installation of a Tree Administrator, a formally recognized City Tree Committee, and addition of a tree-centric line item into the City Budget. He emphasized the need for the Commission to ensure the recommendations are implemented. The Committee will take new membership to include individuals that will focus on solutions regarding the urban heat island effect. Nominations for individuals to be included in this work were advised to be sent to [oeinfo@phoenix.gov](mailto:oeinfo@phoenix.gov) for consideration. Chair Tetreault asked City Staff to prepare a summary of work conducted by the City in this area. Office of Environmental Programs Administrator Nancy Allen indicated that the City contact would be Chief Sustainability Officer Mark Hartman. Commissioner Bill Sandweg questioned what the specific purpose of the Committee would be, with Chair Tetreault indicating he would seek further guidance from the Mayor's Office.

The Chair then opened the discussion to the Commissioners to receive recommendations on who to include. Commissioner Josh Bendor indicated the need to consider vulnerable populations. Commissioner Lobo recommended including members from different communities and technical experts. Commissioner Darren Chapman requested that developers be included to identify opportunities to create developments that will address these issues. Echoing Commissioner Lobo, Commissioner Ginger Torres said that including technical experts and engineers will lead to recommendations that carry more weight as they are backed by science. Commissioner Torres also recommended asking for youth community members. Commissioner Barr recommended that utilities, such as APS or SRP, be included.

**5. 2020 Legislative Overview**

Yesenia Dhott, Management Assistant of City of Phoenix Government Relations Office, presented the Commission with an update to the 2020 Arizona Legislative Session. She described the work of the Government Relations Office. This

includes facilitating dialogue between the City and the State Legislature, and reading proposed legislation and asking for recommendations from City Staff, among others. Management Assistant Dhott described the effects of COVID-19 on Legislature activities and how the typical 100-day session may be extended by a special session to address further ramifications of COVID-19. Management Assistant Dhott relayed the various success of various environmental quality bills, including air quality omnibus and WQARF. Management Assistant Dhott also highlighted that HB 2456, if not passed, would result in the termination of environmental quality programs. In order for the Commissioners and Public to participate as private citizens, Management Assistant Dhott recommended utilizing the Arizona State Legislature's Request to Speak Program. Instructions for the Program can be found by pointing your web browser to the following:

[https://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/Using\\_the\\_Request\\_to\\_Speak\\_Program.pdf](https://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/Using_the_Request_to_Speak_Program.pdf)

Chair Tetreault opened the discussion, but there were no comments or questions.

Chair Tetreault reminded the Commission about the bylaws regulating the appointment of a new vice-chair. The vice-chair could be nominated by the Commission, but would be approved and appointed by Council. He indicated that those who are interested in the position contact him to learn more about the responsibilities.

Roll call was taken again to maintain quorum. 13 Commissioners present.

## **6. Climate Action Plan**

Chair Tetreault spoke about the opportunity the Commission had to be involved in the development of the City of Phoenix's upcoming Climate Action Plan. He reminded the Commission that the City of Phoenix joined C40 this year and that as a requirement, a climate action plan that corresponds with the Paris Agreement would need to be developed by this year.

Administrator Allen then spoke about the timeline that would be required to complete this undertaking. She also indicated that Dr. Matthew Potzler, who recently completed work on the City's greenhouse gas inventories, would be coordinating efforts between City Staff and others to create a suitable plan. Administrator Allen spoke about City Champions being established within each department to spearhead this effort for the plan and beyond.

Chief Tetreault then sternly suggested to the Commissioners that their participation was invited. Many of the Commissioners showed willingness and availability. Chair Tetreault recommended those interested Commissioners should email [oeinfo@phoenix.gov](mailto:oeinfo@phoenix.gov) to indicate their interest in participating. Chair Tetreault also recommended reviewing the C40 Climate Action Plan Framework online, which can be found by pointing your web browser to the following:

<https://resourcecentre.c40.org/climate-action-planning-framework-home>

Commissioner Kevin Groman said when the company he works for aggregated all the projects they were completing, that it created buzz among employees. The similar effect may happen here.

## **7. Commission Vice-Chair Selection**

Chair Tetreault spoke about the need for a Vice-Chair for EQSC and how Ginger Torres came forward to fill that role.

Commissioner Elyse Guidas made a motion to recommend to Council that Commissioner Ginger Torres should be appointed to the position of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Lobo seconded the motion and it carried 13:0.

## **8. Announcements and Review of Future Agenda Items**

Future possible agenda items include:

Status of AZ Recycling Industry

Permitting for Rooftop Solar: City and State

Batteries / Storage & Fire Codes

Mayor Kate Gallego

Rio Reimagined

EQSC Branding

Air Quality Update

Phoenix Water Drought Pipeline Project

Opioids in Water

Increase in population of individuals facing homelessness

SCN Green Infrastructure Handbook

Walkability throughout the City

Climate Action Plan

Urban Heat Island Committee Formation

Chair Tetreault reminded Commissioners to send an email to [oeinfo@phoenix.gov](mailto:oeinfo@phoenix.gov) to indicate willingness to assist in development of the City of Phoenix's Climate Action Plan along with recommendations for the composition of the Urban Heat Island Committee.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Matthew Potzler, Environmental Quality Specialist