

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 3:08 p.m. There were 9 members present at roll call.

Chair Colin Tetreault called for announcements from commissioners and staff. No announcements were made by commissioners or staff. Chair Tetreault announced that he accepted Josh Bendor's resignation and thanked him for his service to the City of Phoenix and EQSC.

2. Review and approval of June 11, 2020 Minutes:

ACTION:

Commissioner Caroline Lobo made a motion to approve the June 11, 2020 minutes. Commissioner Penny Allee Taylor seconded the motion and it carried 9:0.

3. Public Comment – Five people spoke:

Chair Tetreault indicated that attendees wishing to offer comments to feel free to do so.

Aimee Esposito, previously a member of the subcommittee that focused on trees and shade, the Urban Heat Island Trees and Shade Subcommittee (UHITS), expressed concern and disappointment that no further action has occurred since the EQSC had a vote approving the subcommittee's recommendations. Aimee Esposito also mentioned the need for a subcommittee that is accountable to trees and shade and wants to see a full-time position focused on trees.

Stacy Champion was wondering if there would be a public comment period after things are discussed by the commission, since it was odd to comment on things that have not happened yet. Stacy Champion questioned "what is the hold up?" various times in addressing the heat or other plans the city has made.

Melanie Battista with GateKeeper Marketing and CTS Greenwaste Recycling and said she was interested in the proposed future agenda item of Status of AZ Recycling Industry.

Jessica Bueno, president of Urban Phoenix Project, said she was discouraged by the work of the subcommittee and tree and shade plans were being wasted.

Nicole Rodriguez also expressed concern at the lack of meetings of UHITS and lost momentum, and that creating a "new" UHITS would be inefficient.

4. Urban Heat Island Update and Subcommittee Discussion

City of Phoenix Chief Sustainability Officer Mark Hartman discussed urban heat, including trees and shade. He described the need for additional trees and shade to be able to traverse the city. Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman spoke about the urban heat island effect and even the temperature differences between the various communities in Phoenix. He spoke about the importance of addressing urban heat and described many of Phoenix's efforts in regards to adaptation to heat and prevention. Many of these included policies, like the Walkable Urban Code, current programs and actions, like participating in the Heat Relief Network, along with future actions, like the creation of a regional cool corridor program. Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman then described the activities related to trees and shade, including the efforts made by EQSC to support the creation of a tree administrator. Chair Colin Tetreault and Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman

updated the commission as to the status of the text amendment that should still be in progress to be presented to Council by the end of the year. Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman is hoping to include goals related to addressing heat in the next iteration of the General Plan.

Commissioner Caroline Lobo requested more information concerning the cool pavement and how the neighborhoods were chosen. Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman indicated that after he visited Los Angeles with representatives from Streets Department, they visited with councilmembers to identify areas that would be appropriate for this pilot program. More information can be found on <https://www.phoenix.gov/streets/coolpavement>

Vice Chair Ginger Torres asked about the tree administrator and permanent committee action items from the recommendations from the tree and shade subcommittee. Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman indicated that work was being done to seek funding for the tree administrator position. Chair Tetreault asked for guidance on what would be the most effective way to continue to pursue these goals with Chief Sustainability Officer Hartman responding to be specific in recommendations and requests.

Chair Tetreault then indicated a need to reinvigorate UHITS. He proposed to have UHITS begin to meet again starting in September 2020. He proposed expanding the membership of the subcommittee to 15 members that include a Chair and Vice Chair, community members, urban forestry member, community health member, utility representative, development industry representative, planning expert, academic expert, community and residential leadership, young professional and community advocates from high-impact and disadvantaged communities. He proposed that EQSC Vice Chair Ginger Torres be the UHITS Chair and that Commissioner Dwayne Allen be UHITS Vice Chair. He proposed that the appointments would be made by the following week and previous members would be welcome. These suggestions should be sent to oeinfo@phoenix.gov.

ACTION:

Commissioner Penny Allee Taylor made a motion to approve the proposed changes to UHITS made by Chair Tetreault. Commissioner Bill Sandweg seconded the motion and it carried 9:0.

Elyse Guidas asked what the difference between this subcommittee and the previous one would be with Chair Tetreault indicating that the expanded subcommittee would address urban heat island issues beyond trees and shade.

Vice Chair Torres asked for an architect planner professional be a part of the subcommittee membership.

Commissioner Kevin Groman recommended to prioritize the action items and to ensure that previous work is reviewed.

5. Climate Action Plan Update

Dr. Matthew Potzler, Environmental Air Quality and Climate Specialist for the City of Phoenix Office of Environmental Programs, gave an update to the efforts towards producing a C40-compliant climate action plan. Dr. Potzler described the progress being made by the City's climate liaisons and the current work revolving around long-term goals. He described the outreach being performed to receive more input from the community, including radio and television appearances, both in

English and Spanish. He also reviewed some of the preliminary results from the online survey available at <https://www.phoenix.gov/oep/climate>. Chair Tetreault and Vice Chair Torres inquired as to how regularly this plan would be updated with Dr. Potzler responding that the full plan would be addressed at the same time as the greenhouse gas inventories were updated to determine the efficacy of the different actions taken within the plan. Office of Environmental Programs Administrator Nancy Allen added that the plan itself will have portions of the plan addressed in between this period, especially the high-priority areas, like heat, drought, and air quality. Vice Chair Torres then asked about how will the community be notified as to the update, with Administrator Allen indicating that future community involvement would include events, like virtual workshops, as traditional methods may not be possible during these times and that these events will be announced. Commissioner Lobo recommended reaching out to neighborhood associations.

6. Climate Action Plan: Mayor Gallego Request for EQSC Assistance in Business Engagement

Chair Tetreault described the request from Mayor Gallego to obtain input from the business sector. Chair Tetreault asked commissioners to seek out this input by the following sectors: non-profit, faith-based groups, schools, and minority- and women-owned businesses. His request was met with the following commitments from the commissioners. Commissioner Groman committed to reach out to large businesses and incubators. Vice Chair Torres committed to reach out to non-profits and schools. Commissioner Lobo committed to seek recommendations from schools. Chair Tetreault then committed to seek out input from faith-based organizations. Chair Tetreault requested for an update on this outreach by the next EQSC meeting on September 10, 2020.

7. 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
- Heat and Trees/Shade
- Tree Text Amendment Update
- 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

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Matthew Potzler, Environmental Quality Specialist