



**CITY OF GLENDALE
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

Minutes of Regular Meeting

June 1, 2023, AT 5:30 PM

1. ROLL CALL – 5:30 PM

- The meeting was called to order on June 1st, 2023, at 5:30 pm.
 - a) *Present:* Commissioner Bartrosouf, Commissioner Kartounian, Commissioner Werner, Vice Chair Bazemore (arrived late), Chairperson Pinkerton, Student Ex-Officio Borisov, and Student Ex-Officio Kudo.
 - a) **Pledge of Allegiance.**
 - b) **Land Acknowledgement**
 - c) **The Agenda for the June 1st, 2023, meeting of the Sustainability Commission was posted on May 25, 2023, on the Bulletin Board Outside City Hall.**

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) **Approval of the Minutes of the Commission regular meeting held on April 6, 2023.**

Motion to approve the minutes moved by Chair Pinkerton and seconded by Commissioner Werner.

- Ayes: Commissioner Bartrosouf, Commissioner Werner, Commissioner Kartounian, and Chair Pinkerton
- Absent: Vice Chair Bazemore

3. BOARD MEMBER/STAFF COMMENTS

- a) **Sustainable Stewardship Awards**

- Sustainable Stewardship Award given to the Golden Book Project and Carlos Marin.

Board comments:

- Commissioner Werner received an email asking about the City's work on reducing food waste and asks if someone can come to the Commission and share how businesses are diverting food from the trash.
- Vice Chair Bazemore asks if the Commission can request Public Works to give an update on the Edible Food Recovery program and organic waste recycling and recycling in the City (both City serviced residents and hauler-serviced residents).

- Chair Pinkerton asks the City to share metrics on the Edible Food Recovery program and organic waste pail distribution.
- Ex-Officio Kudo can the City ask the school district to disclose information on Food Recovery and organic waste?
- Commissioner Kartounian suggests recognizing local and small businesses in Glendale that have achieved milestones in Sustainability.
- Chair Pinkerton suggested a publicity program for the foodware and plastic ordinance, such as a donation drive to collect foodware accessories and polystyrene.
- Ex-officio Borisov mentions that the Glendale Beeline is being electrified and by 2040 Glendale Beeline will be completely electric. The Regional Connector project is going to open soon. City Council will be voting on bioswale and retention systems soon. Did the City conduct a study on signal prioritization for buses in Glendale? If not, can Public Works inform the Commission if they will do it?

Staff comments:

- Integrated Waste has been implementing SB 1383 and the Edible Food Recovery Program. They will soon be conducting route audits of their SB1383 compliance efforts.
- The City does not have jurisdiction over GUSD and cannot make them disclose information.
- The City is part of the California Green Business Network which recognizes small businesses that are making strides in sustainability. The City had a consultant to establish that program but is in the process of re-establishing that program.
- The Office of Sustainability has just partnered with economic Development regarding business outreach of the disposable foodware ban and the potential polystyrene ban and additional plastic waste ordinances.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Discussion is limited to items not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. Each speaker is allowed 5 minutes. Sustainability Commission members may question or respond to the speaker, but there will be no debate or decision. The matter may be referred to staff for investigation and report.

- Alan Dish: Scholl Canyon, when closed, should have replanting of trees so that School Canyon can avoid a scar like Griffith Park's former Toyon landfill. Banning gas-powered leaf blowers and single-use plastics is not radical enough, and we need bigger systemic changes. Suggest installing a massive sprinkler system in Verdugo Mountains and San Rafael Hills to prevent wildfires.

5. ACTION ITEMS

6. REPORTS/INFORMATION

a) Environmental Preferable Purchasing Update

Commissioner Questions:

- How much is spent on paper?
- Is there a default mandate to purchase EPP products under \$50,000?
- Is the paper that the County and Staples purchase domestically produced?
- Why do City Council meetings have many paper packets and the Sustainability Commission meetings do not have paper packets?
- Has the City identified the most paper-intensive processes to prioritize for digitalization?
- Who executes service contracts and ensures the recycling of packaging, for instance?
- Does the City do its own gardening or do they outsource it?

Comments:

- Recommendation to default to the US EPA's comprehensive procurement guidelines.
- Request for the Commission to review EPP specs and for the City to set a baseline.
- Vendor reporting: Sales reports are typically different from the pick-up report. It's good to combine reports to ensure the EPR program is working properly.
- Recommendation to put a statement in product requirements regarding environmentally preferable packaging.
- Recommend that the EPP defines VOC standards, such as using another organization's standard of low VOC.
- If using rechargeable batteries, ensure to have battery chargers.
- Recommendation to have permanent sites for compost distribution. The City is in the process of developing a permanent compost distribution site.
- Center for Environmental Health does studies and reports on toxicity in products.

7. SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE UPDATES

a) Earth Date and Beyond Recap

Questions:

- For repair workshops do they teach attendees how to repair the item?

Comments:

- Carbon Conversations was nice to sit and connect with the community.
- Encouragement of the great programming in Earth Day & Beyond and suggestion of having regular Carbon Conversation programming.
- Earth Day Fair was a wonderful, fun day and a good opportunity to teach children about environmental mindfulness.
- Suggestion to invite school clubs to table at the Earth Day Fair, like the Sustainability and Environmental clubs.
- Recommendation for having Earth Day Fair at another park with more trees, shade, and in a denser neighborhood like Maple Park.

- Consider a location with bus line access.
- Advocating for additional funding and resource for the Sustainability team to continue and adding to these sustainability events.

b) Ex-officio Recruitment Update

Questions:

- How did the current Ex-Officios learn about the application?
- Could the application be a challenge?

Comments:

- Current Ex-officio found the opportunity through their teacher and fellow commissioners.
- It's easier to apply by submitting items through a Google Form.
- Letters of recommendation could be a barrier. They may be a potential test of an applicant's social network and puts pressure on an additional party.
- Suggestion having 1 letter of recommendation instead of 2, may encourage more student applications.

c) Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Update

Questions:

- How are the Focus Groups set up?
- How are community workshops and pop-ups different?
- Can commissioners join workshops and pop-ups?

Comments:

- Focus Groups are initially for community-based organizations to gather initial information and then have wider workshops for the community.
- Pop-ups will occur around the City in different neighborhoods and areas.
- LADWP identified themes in their climate plan research and found different ways to frame climate change and climate action.

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURNMENT @ 6:57 PM

Moved by Chair Pinkerton seconded by Commissioner Werner.