



Commission on Climate, Energy, and Sustainability Thursday, April 25, 2024, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Office of City Council Ward 6
3202 E 1st Street
Tucson, Arizona, 85716
Legal Action Report

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:33 by Chair Jim Sell

Present:

Adriana Bachmann	Representative, Ward 2
Ojas Sanghi	Representative, Ward 3
Jim Sell	Representative, Ward 6
Garrett Weaver	Representative, City Manager
Camila Martins-Bekat	Representative, City Manager, Tucson Electric Power

Staff Members & Guests:

Michael Catanzaro	Energy Manager, Environmental & General Services Department (EGSD)
Natalie Shepp	Pima County Department of Environmental Quality
Jane Conlin	Citizens Climate Lobby and the Greater Tucson Climate Coalition
Rick Rappaport	
Judith Anderson	

Absent:

John Eisele	Representative, City Manager, Environmental Organization Combating & Adapting to Climate Change
Alma Lizette Anides Morales	Representative, Mayor's Office

2) Call to the Audience

Jane Conlin - thanked the commission for the time, member of Citizens Climate Lobby and the Greater Tucson Climate Coalition. Wants to see Tucson and the County decarbonize quickly. Part of organizing, in 2020, that called for the Climate Action Plan, thanked the city for creating that. Wants to help accelerate implementation. There is the IRA, Infrastructure, and CHIPs act. Yale climate connections says that 75% of people in Tucson want a rebate for solar panels, 80% want to see solar on public land, 85% want funding for renewable energy. More knowledge of tax benefits are needed. Suggested IRA and climate grant requests should be itemized by the grant, grant requests, and projects should be publicized.

Rick Rappaport - After Prop 412 was defeated, he spoke to the city council to have a lawyer represent the city. Rankin's office did hire someone. There's no information coming from the city. Many cities

including Chicago have binding agreements. ACC wants to remove renewable energy standards. Only opportunity we have is a lawyer for the city to extract as much as we can from negotiations. Urges the committee to make the franchise process more transparent. If it's defeated again there will be a lot of problems. Urges the city to open up the process any way that they can.

Judith Anderson - Thanked the commission for letting her speak last month. Looking at the advisory board, longer term board. Task forces, which can be spun off from that. The Joint Task Force Model includes citizens and staff. Point is coordination, participation, collaboration. Too small advisory group, with too much to do. Citizens currently have one way output. TRT has 122 goals and we need to get more citizens involvement. Get better citizens' engagement.

3) Approval of Minutes (Mar 28)

Motion to approve from Comm. Martins-Bekat, Second from Comm. Sanghi.

4) Report from the Chair - None

5) Speaker: Natalie Shepp, Environmental Planning Manager, Pima County - None

6) Invite to Climate Action, Sustainability, Eco-Justice Summit, May 10

Commissioners Sell, Bachmann, and Weaver agreed to table at the Climate Action, Sustainability & Eco-Justice Summit at Pima Community College West Campus on May, 10th. Chair Sell made a commitment to attend in the morning. Comm. Bachmann and Comm. Weaver committed to the afternoon.

Commissioners Bachmann, Weaver, and Sell will set up the event. Comm. Weaver agreed to send out the public meeting notice.

7) Outreach for Tucson Climate Action Plan Implementation

After discussion commissioners agreed to establish a “Community Engagement and Communications Subcommittee” to set up a webpage, do social media, do events like tabling, form connections with the media, and look at ways to involve the community in climate action plan implementation.

8) Energy Manager Report - None

9) Call to the Audience .

Jane thanked Natalie for her presentation. Asked why PAG does not involve municipalities, in a collaborative way, to create a transit system. When there is a hole in the boat, plug up the biggest hole.

Rick Rappaport - Passed time to Judith to address question of wow would engagement work?

Judith Anderson - it’s a new paradigm, we’ll send a white paper with new models, current engagement involves time intensive process. You could achieve more value from the public. Fresno is seeking a transformative 165 community members body. Would love to have input into a subcommittee.

10) Future Agenda Items - None

11) Adjournment

Chair Sell adjourned the meeting at 5:04.