



WATER CONSERVATION/SAFE YIELD COMMITTEE MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 18, 2009
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

MINUTES OF THE **GENERAL MEETING** OF THE **WATER CONSERVATION/SAFE YIELD COMMITTEE** held on **JUNE 18, 2009** in the **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM** located at **433 N. VIRGINIA ST.**, Prescott, Arizona.

Members:

Chuck Budinger, Chair	P	Howard Mechanic, Vice Chair	P
Ann-Marie Benz	A	Margaret Nicholl	P
Sandy Griffis	P	Gene Schmidt	P
Charles Hildebrant	P		

(P=Present A=Absent)

Others Present:

Councilman Lamerson, Shaun Rydell, Teresa Ogle

1. Call to order and roll call
2. Public comment (5 minutes)
3. Approval of minutes from the May 7, 2009 Special Meeting, and May 21, 2009 General Meeting (5 minutes)

Howard Mechanic made a motion to approve both the May 7, 2009 Special Meeting minutes, and the May 21, 2009 meeting minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Staff Report

- a. Monthly Water Conservation Report

Shaun Rydell discussed the incentive credit program as of June 16, 2009. There were 2,261,000 gallons saved on turf removal alone. Shaun based her estimate on an assumption that usage was 43 gallons per square foot. It was agreed that Shaun would add a footnote to provide the source for her assumptions (Amy Vickers).

Toilet replacements doubled. 44 applications were received last month – a 600% increase in one month. Shaun discussed the Home and Garden show, and a partnership on Niagara high efficiency toilets. Koehler and HD Supply also inserted coupons in utility bills for low flow toilets (at no expense to the City). Margaret Nicholl and Charlie Hildebrant voiced concerns about how private partnerships are established, and how vendors are chosen. This topic will be discussed at a future meeting. Howard Mechanic agreed to create a draft guideline to be discussed at the next meeting. Chuck Budinger agreed to notify the Mayor that this item will be discussed at the next meeting. Items applied for through the incentive program have increased from 793 in 2008, to

1,069 in 2009, with an average of 23% water savings from those that have participated in the program. Howard Mechanic felt this number might be misleading, because the large resort project is factored into this number. It was agreed that Shaun would remove this reference. June applications will still need to be processed and then fiscal year numbers will be finalized. It was discussed that with audits, records will be created on actual water savings. It was agreed that Shaun would provide an incentive program update twice per year – January and July.

Shaun also reported that a Vista volunteer has been selected. Ben Davidson will be starting July 29, 2009. Shaun will be attending supervisor training in July. Ben will be focusing on rinse smart valves, backwater sewer valves, public presentations, and volunteer coordination.

Howard Mechanic had asked that staff contact Parks and Rec and provide an update on whether the City was auditing the Granite Creek Park or Watson Lake Park fields. Although Connie Tucker was absent, it was discussed that the Parks and Rec irrigation manager has retired, and Shaun will encourage the new irrigation manager to attend CLIA training. Shaun stated that a relationship needs to be built with the new irrigation manager, and would not suggest directing Parks and Rec to do anything. Councilman Lamerson suggested that water savings should have been seen when the 8 to 8 watering ordinance went into effect. There should be a record to show how much water was saved in these high water use months. Charlie Hildebrant said that the fields were probably already using gear drive rotor heads, they probably weren't running them in the daytime anyway. They were probably already watering in the early hours, but it would be worth checking. Chuck Budinger asked that they take a systematic approach to identifying high water users within the City and review a report of this at the next meeting. If Connie is not able to attend the next meeting, a report should be sent.

- b. Budget Report (Connie Tucker) – next meeting
- c. City Facilities Project Updates (Grace Sparks Activity Center, Miller Valley School)

Shaun reported that she will be putting together a plan, with a consult from one of the area design professionals, and work with Parks and Rec to try to keep within budget. Plans include turf reduction, large planter beds around existing junipers and low water use materials, and sprinkler retrofit. She will provide a conceptual drawing and an estimated cost at the August meeting.

Shaun also reported that the Armory retrofit is complete. All high water use toilets were replaced. Project stayed within the \$5,000 budget. Concerns about the budget for the Memorial Park were discussed, and whether money was carried over from the previous year, and also if the \$50,000 for the next fiscal year was approved.

- 5. Review and discussion of Mission Statement – move to next month
- 6. Design Criteria presentation by Task Force

Councilman Lamerson reminded the committee that sensitivity needs to be shown to veterans on the Memorial Park design. He also stated that public perception may be

skewed right now, with the public thinking that all turf is being removed, etc. Chuck Budinger indicated that veterans definitely need to be included in the stakeholder group. Councilman Lamerson suggested speaking to the Legion. Shaun indicated that she has been speaking with them. Unfortunately, the state tore down the memorial and removed the obelisk. The plaque has been retrieved. Shaun indicated that a new memorial will be recreated at the City's expense, with veterans involved in the design aspect, including whether an obelisk needs to be recreated.

A step-by-step review was done of the design submittal form. Recommendations will be incorporated into the form. Various concerns were discussed, including

- whether Christmas decorations which go up each year need to be considered in the design
- how much turf should be removed
- condition of the existing trees due to asphalt under the soil
- reduction in water requirements, with emphasis on indigenous native plantings
- limited parking – don't want to encourage parties, etc.
- Shaun needs input from committee members for the Stakeholders and Design Resource Lists.
- an article will be placed in the paper soliciting designs
- the top 3 designers will each receive a \$500 award
- budget will not be specified in the packet; whatever is submitted will be shown to Council
- someone who bids landscaping for a living needs to be on the judging committee

7. Discussion of YNLA certification and vote on endorsement
8. Report from the Facilities Task Force on potential rainwater projects
9. EPA Graywater Workgroup Webinar (Chuck Budinger)
10. Indoor Audits
11. Next meeting July 16, 2009 - discuss Items for Agenda
 - a. Establish Guidelines for Public/Private Partnerships
 - b. Review and discussion of Mission Statement
 - c. Finalize design criteria form
12. Adjourned at 5:30.

CHUCK BUDINGER, Chairman

TERESA OGLE
Minutes Preparer