



Landscape Advisory Committee

Minutes of Meeting Held September 18, 2019
900 S. Randolph Way, Tucson, AZ 85716

Members Present: Katie Gannon, Jackie Lyle, Laura Mielcarek, Deborah Munoz-Chacon, Flor Sandoval, Nick Shipley, Ron van Ommeren

Members Absent:

Guests/Staff Present: Parker Filer, Pima County Cooperative Extension; Anne Loftfield, Toxin Free Pima County; Sue Ann Christenson, Toxin Free Pima County; Robin Motzer, Toxin Free Pima County; GeeGee Larrington, Toxin Free Pima County; Steve Safken,

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by L.Mielcarek

2. Minutes for Approval

- June 19, 2019 minutes: Scribner corrections: 2. 2nd bullet: “. . . to accept minutes . . .”
- Motion by K.Gannon to accept with minutes with correction, second by J.Lyle; approved – yes=7; no=0; abstain=0.

3. New Discussion

A. Toxin-Free Pima County: G.G. Larrington presented- introduction of other Toxin Free Pima County attendees; history of formation of group; hand-out of pesticide-herbicide effects on human health; presented experience of visit to Irvine, CA and how they started; use of organics on play fields with assistance from Chip Osborne, Beyond Pesticides; turf improvements on fields exhibited water consumption conservation; organic approach is a ‘process’; may include steam, fire, vinegar, use of goats, solarization, plus other methods; 2 major organic consultant teams = Beyond Pesticide and Non-Toxic Neighborhoods (located in Irvine); turf is only part where there is water savings; pyramid example of Organic First; person in Cottonwood has been working grassroots; has not done outreach to public at this time; small group and not equipped to do outreach; organic landscape is form of regenerative grazing.

- Discussion: alternative herbicides can be cost prohibitive when dealing with HOAs; any suggestions on how to approach Boards – response: cost may be higher first few years, need to educate HOAs, focus is to eliminate any use of pesticides; question: where is data – response: Toxin-Free Neighborhood and Chip Osborne; Non-Toxin Neighborhoods and Schools have websites; LAC member comment: may need to work on messaging to be less technical when selling to HOAs

B. Meet LAC applicants:

- Steve Safken, environmental engineer: simple 4 point measuring tool developing water harvesting on the ground, supporting residential water harvesting; can teach and develop technique; read Plan Tucson – water harvesting and tree planting; passionate about water remaining on property; think pollinators and native species are important; applying for Planner position
- Vote on 2 positions today:
 - Educator: motion to Parker Filer by K.Gannon, second J.Lyle; passed yes-7, no-0, abstain-0.
 - Planner/Architect: motion to recommend Alison Meadow by J.Lyle, second by L.Mielcarek. Motion passed yes-7; no-0; abstain-0.

4. Old Discussion
 - A. LAC subcommittee Updates:
 - Plants (Jackie, Nick, Ron) – J.Lyle, reported subcommittee will submit plant list to Councilmembers; Oct. 2, 3 p.m. at Ward offices regarding ADWR plant list
 - Policy/Education: K.Gannon – subcommittee has not met
 - Parks/Maintenance – have not received draft as yet to review
 - B. IPM & Community Landscape Maintenance Update – update via email from I.Ogata; will have draft of Landscape Maintenance for Parks/Maintenance subcommittee; working with TW IT to develop app for IWM applicators
5. Staff reports
 - A. TDOT Report – none
6. Chairperson’s Summary of Current Events
 - ACTC conference in Prescott this week
 - 9/29 Plant Swap at La Cocina, starts at 4 p.m., cut off at 6 p.m.: exchange plants, proceeds of food and drinks go back Desert Survivors
 - 10/4 – Arizona Professional Landscape Designers symposium at TBG
 - 10/25 – ½ day grass workshop at Herbarium
 - Smartscape doing advance class about plants 3-6 p.m. Wed, Thurs, Fri
7. Call to Audience:
 - none
8. Future Agenda Items:
 - RTA
 - Complete Street Update
 - Green Stormwater Infrastructure Fee Update
9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:16 pm