



# Agenda

DATE 6/13/13 TIME 11:56a  
RECEIVED BY Katlyn Jennings  
RECEIVED BY [Signature]

## SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION

Tuesday, June 18, 2013  
Councilors' Conference Room  
200 Lincoln Avenue  
Santa Fe, NM  
2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ROLL CALL
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 15th, 2013
- E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR (5 min)
- F. REPORT FROM AND ASSIGNMENT OF ACTIONEER (5 min)
- G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS (10 min)
- H. PRESENTATIONS (20 min)
  - 1. Gaia Gardens/Urban Agriculture Zoning (B. Sopoci-Belknap, Poki Piottin)
  - 2. Climate Adaptation Plan Update (E. Chiocchio)
- I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
  - 1. ENERGY Update (E. Chiocchio) (5 min)
  - 2. ASSESSMENT - STAR Communities Pilot Update (K. Kelly) (2 min)
  - 3. GREEN BUSINESS Update (A. Evans) (5 min)
    - a) EMS (Katlyn, should this be on here? Anything to update?)
    - b) Green Business Certification
  - 4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (A. Romero) (10 min)
  - 5. PLASTIC BAG BAN Update (K. Kelly) (5 min)
  - 6. VICE CHAIR VOTE (B. Sopoci-Belknap) (5 min)
- J. UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES (10 min)
- K. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR (5 min)
- L. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION (5 min)
- M. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA (5 min)
- N. ADJOURNMENT

**Next Meeting: – July 16th, 2013**

**NOTE: Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.**

**INDEX OF MINUTES  
SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION  
June 18, 2013**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>PAGE(S)</b>
<b>A. CALL TO ORDER</b>	<b>Convened</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>B. ROLL CALL</b>	<b>Quorum</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 21, 2013</b>	<b>Approved [as amended]</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR</b>		<b>2-3</b>
<b>F. REPORT FROM AND ASSIGNMENT OF ACTIONEER</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>G. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>H. PRESENTATIONS</b>		
<b>1. GAIA Gardens/Urban Agriculture Zoning</b>		<b>3-6</b>
<b>2. Climate Adaptation Plan Update</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS</b>		
<b>1. Energy Update</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>2. ASSESSMENT – STAR Communities Pilot Update</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>3. Green Business Update</b>		
<b>a. EMS</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>b. Green Business Certification</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>4. Community Engagement</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>5. Plastic Bag Ban Update</b>		<b>7-8</b>
<b>6. Vice-Chair Vote</b>	<b>Nomination made/passed</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>J. UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>K. ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>L. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION</b>		<b>8-9</b>
<b>M. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>N. ADJOURNMENT</b>		<b>9</b>

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**CITY OF SANTA FE**  
**SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE COMMISSION**  
**June 18, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Sustainable Santa Fe Commission was called to order by Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair at 2:37 p.m. at the City Hall, City Councilors' Chambers, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum for conducting official business as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair  
Esha Chiocchio  
Kim Kelly  
Louise Pape  
Maria Rotunda  
Glenn Schiffbauer

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Amanda Evans, excused  
Jerome Lujan, excused  
Andrea Romero, excused

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Katlyn Jennings, Americorps Cadre Member  
Jessica Leman, intern  
Matt O'Reilly, Land Use Director

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jessica Leman, visitor  
Lisa Merrill, SF Solid Waste Management Agency  
Poki Piottin, GAIA Gardens  
Seth Roffman, *Green Fire Times*  
Brooke Sanford, visitor  
Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Pape moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Schiffbauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 21, 2013**

The following changes were made to the Minutes of the May 21, 2013 meeting:  
Page 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> to last paragraph was changed to read: *"...and there will be a .10 cent fee on bags that are grocery size or larger."*

Page 7, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence, the word Development was changed to: ***"Divestment"***

Page 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence was changed to read: *"He suggested that the Energy Committee reach out to the rural co-ops **that** might have "wiggle-room"..."*

Page 8, 8<sup>th</sup> paragraph, the word "BRRT" was changed to read: ***"BURRT"***

Page 9, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence was changed to read: *"For example, switching off lights..."*

Page 10, last paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence was changed to read: *"She said they had a meeting and they bought a truckload of ollas, which is a pot where water can seep out."*

**Commissioner Pape moved to approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2013 meeting as amended. Commissioner Rotunda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Introductions were made.

Brooke Sanford said she works full-time for the Forest Service but she is interested in sustainability issues and is hoping to get involved with the Commission.

Seth Roffman distributed the current issue of *Green Fire Times* noting that it is focused on wildlife and some green building. He mentioned that the next issue will not have a particular theme and the August issue will focus on Native American green indigenous solutions.

Jessica Leman is an intern working with Nick Schiavo. She said they are working on developing and implementing a new web face on the City's website where homeowners in Santa Fe can go on and log in all of their information regarding their homes, and do energy audits. They will also offer a printed version of the energy audit. She noted that she will be going to churches throughout the month of July to reach people, as well as hosting workshops at the Community Convention Center and the Community College.

Matt O'Reilly said he is the Land Use Director for the City and he is not here to make a presentation but to listen.

## **REPORT FROM AND ASSIGNMENT OF ACTIONEER**

Chair Sopoci-Belknap emailed the Actioneer report on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Commissioner Chiocchio reviewed the report. {Please see Exhibit "A" for the specifics}. Chair Sopoci-Belknap also e-mailed the *Draft Education and Outreach Plan* and PNM survey to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Chiocchio offered to be the Actioneer for this meeting.

## **STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Jennings noted that Katherine Mortimer is out of town. She mentioned that they had a meeting on recycling yesterday and they are completing a commercial recycling brochure. Also, Cindy Padilla is working a Request for Proposal for a food waste pilot project for restaurants to do composting.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. GAIA Gardens/Urban Agriculture Zoning**

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said she asked Poki Piottin to come to the Commission meeting based on her understanding of what has transpired in relation to GAIA Gardens and this body's interest in that, and the barriers that exist to urban agriculture here in the City of Santa Fe. She said it is important to make a distinction between hobby gardening and urban agriculture. She said we are seeing a lot of policies that are making it more possible for people to learn how to grow food here and to engage in the exercise of doing gardening together in a community-gardening context. However, this is not producing food and is not what you would characterize as agriculture.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap noted that it is clearly articulated in the *Sustainable SF Plan* that the community is interested in local food production and urban agriculture. She said GAIA's experience is important to the Commission in terms of what is possible currently, and what is not. She said Poki Piottin can speak more specifically on the issues that they are encountering.

Poki Piottin explained that he wrote to the Mayor early last year about another community garden he was doing on Don Gaspar that was pretty successful. He said he spotted the land where they are currently operating on and he had some questions on water rights, etc. Mayor Coss referred him to the Land Use Department and he met with a panel of Land Use Planners and made a presentation on the property that is categorized as a residential zoning area.

Mr. Piottin said the panel gave him their "blessing" that urban farming was allowed in residential zoning. The only restriction that the panel could see was that he could not sell the products of the farm on the premise. So, he opened a farm stand in July of last year because they could not get into the Farmer's Market and they had 100 pounds of produce and they received an incredible response.

Mr. Piottin explained that he wrote a letter to the Mayor in early of this year about getting a special variance to have a farm stand because it was so successful. He said he did not hear from the Mayor but he received a call from Mr. O'Reilly who indicated that there were some complaints from neighbors about the tents on the property. Mr. O'Reilly also informed Mr. Piottin that he could not publicly advertise or promote events because they are located in a residential zoning area.

Mr. Piottin said it is against City Code to draw people to a residential area with an occupation like this, therefore he agreed not to advertise any more events.

Mr. Piottin said in January of this year, he heard from the Attorney General that there were complaints that they were trespassing on public land because the property is 50 feet from the trail. He noted that he wrote to the property owner who filed the complaint but he did not receive a response and things have escalated from there. They received a citation from the City of Santa Fe last week with five points of violations, such as the fact that tents are not allowed on residential property and the RV trailer that is parked on the property where Mr. Piottin sleeps occasionally is also not allowed. Mr. Piottin also failed to obtain a home occupation business license. He agreed to take care of these items and removed the RV trailer from the property. He noted that he was denied the business license because he used volunteers.

Mr. Piottin met with Mr. O'Reilly last week about the citation and what he needs to do to get into compliance. He would like to put together a coalition to work on this. The only thing they can do is to go to City Council to request that the Code be amended to allow this type of operation to take place and this could be a lengthy process. He said there is also a possibility of requesting a special variance, or special use permit, other than a home occupation business.

Mr. Piottin mentioned that the GAIA Garden was certified today as the first organic farm in the City of Santa Fe.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said she is hoping that there are Commissioners who are interested in working with Mr. Piottin in looking at the current code and possibly changing it. Commissioner Pape and Chair Sopoci-Belknap will be part of this working group. They will bring a proposal to this Commission for review and approval before it goes to City Council.

Ms. Merrill said she did not understand why the GAIA Gardens could not have volunteers. She asked Mr. O'Reilly if this is something that can be changed in the code to maybe say they are allowed 3 volunteers or something.

Mr. Piottin said he is only allowed to have two people working on the farm.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said this is a complicated issue because we are talking about a residential neighborhood and there are reasons for the City Code. She said there is also the piece that you cannot have an agricultural urban business with two people working the land.

Mr. O'Reilly said first of all, he would like to clarify some of the statements that were made. He said the City has not issued a citation or formal complaint to Mr. Piottin or anyone yet. The person who is responsible for the property is the property owner; therefore nothing was sent to Mr. Piottin. He said with regard to whether the Code can be amended, absolutely. He said there are reasons that home occupation businesses are limited. There are large sections of the City that are commercially-zoned for businesses where something like this could take place. There are also large sections of the City that are set aside specifically for residential uses, and in those areas they do allow businesses to operate in a limited way, and that is to protect people's rights to live and quietly enjoy their neighborhoods for residential use. Home occupation businesses that have large clientele coming into neighborhoods – and how much parking that this could create- and other issues that this kind of level of intensity can cause in a neighborhood is the issue. This is how they keep people safe and has nothing to do with volunteers.

Mr. O'Reilly noted that a resolution was introduced at last City Council meeting that asked staff to look into changes to the Land Use Code that could be made that would allow certain things to happen like having farm stands in residential areas. In addition to that, one of the City Councilors asked that staff look into the possibility of expanding the current community gardens system in the City parks and to expand what can be done at these community gardens, to include selling vegetables there at the parks. He said there is a large park at Tierra Contenta that has this kind of design of a community garden and have a treated effluent line that is run from the Treatment Plant directly to the community garden and park. He said the City parks have parking and some have bathrooms.

Mr. O'Reilly mentioned that changing the City Code could take a long time. He explained that there is nothing in the City Code that prevents someone from growing a garden at their house, and from growing vegetables and fruit for their own use; or perhaps taking the fruits and vegetables to the Farmer's Market and selling them, if they have a home occupation business license. Advertising commercial events or sales is not allowed in a residential zoning area, or as part of a home occupation business. Also, volunteers have to be housed in appropriate dwellings that are built to the building code and are safe; have fire protection and proper sanitation.

Commissioner Kelly asked if there were other cities that have amended their home occupation code just for urban farming.

Mr. O'Reilly said he did not know if there are any.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap thanked Mr. O'Reilly for clarifying some things. She said the need to have informed staff to be part of the process is critical.

Mr. O'Reilly said he was not sure what staff would be directed to do this, this is up to the City Manager.

## **2. Climate Adaptation Plan Update**

Commissioner Chiochio said she, Katherine Mortimer, Claudia Borchert, Grace Perez and Melissa McDonald attended the Western Adaptation Alliance meeting in Arizona. She noted that this was an opportunity for people to learn and exchange ideas on what other cities are doing in terms of water and climate change.



## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Energy Update**

Commissioner Chiochio will send out a Doodle Poll to establish a meeting time next week for the Energy Subcommittee to discuss PNM and community solar.

### **2. ASSESSMENT – STAR Communities Pilot Update**

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said they will meet when Katherine Mortimer and Amanda Evans return.

### **3. Green Business Update**

#### **a. EMS (Environment Management System)**

Ms. Jennings reported that there is nothing new to report since the last meeting. She is waiting for Katherine Mortimer to return to approve the EMS template.

#### **b. Green Business Certification**

Commissioner Kelly said there is the desire that people want this but the main barrier is funding at this point. The group will meet again in the second week of July. They will continue to work on a checklist for the businesses. They will also looking into possible grant opportunities.

### **4. Community Engagement**

Chair Sopoci-Belknap said one of the outcomes of the meeting was a desire to start having all subcommittees pay attention to all education and outreach opportunities within their work arena and that there be a connection with the Community Engagement Subcommittee, so the Subcommittee can act as a support of the efforts and be an intricate part of what is happening.

### **5. Plastic Bag Ban Update**

Commissioner Kelly said the dates for the Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance have changed. The Plastic Bag Ban hearing is scheduled for July 3<sup>rd</sup> with the Public Utilities Committee at City Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m. However, no public comment will be taken the, but it would be good to have supporters in attendance. The Ordinance will then go to the Finance Committee on July 15<sup>th</sup> and there will be time for public comment. This will be the time to

show support to make sure that the Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance goes through. It would also be good if people could send in letters to the editor/*My View* and/or email City Councilors in support of the plastic bag ban. The Ordinance will be presented to City council on July 27<sup>th</sup> and then there will be 30 days for the public to comment on it.

Commissioner Kelly announced that the Montanita Coop is considering the possibility of eliminating disposable paper shopping bags and it is with a vision of supporting the community and our environment that they look into going “bag-less”. The Coop is conducting a survey on whether or not they should support the idea of going bag-less. They realize that everyone still needs to get their groceries home, and that not everyone always remembers to bring their own bags with them. Therefore, they wish to explore packaging solutions that will most conveniently transport groceries for their customers.

[A copy of the Survey is incorporated herewith to these Minutes as Exhibit “B”.]

#### **6. Vice Chair Vote**

Commissioner Pape nominated Esha Chiocchio to serve as Vice Chair. Commissioner Kelly seconded the nomination. Commissioner Chiocchio accepted the nomination and it passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

None presented.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE CHAIR**

There were no items from the Chair.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Pape mentioned that a woman from Texas called her and she indicated they have a plan in Clarendon, Texas where they are educating people and working with the city on water irrigation and they are using 4 inch pipe instead of 1 inch pipe. She has brought trees that were suffering and brought them back to life. Commissioner Pape will get written information about this.

Commissioner Pape said there are other techniques for growing food. She noted that there is a Mormon book called “*Backyard Winter Gardening*” and it indicates that you do not

need heat to grow things in the winter. She said they are doing amazing things in Utah and the author of the book is teaching on this.

Chair Sopoci-Belknap noted that there was a report regarding climate change and tree mortality. She offered to send out the report.

Ms. Merrill offered to send out an article that was on line regarding fire management. The article was published in the *Outside Magazine* and written by Kyle Dickman.

Commissioner Pape noted that there is an agro-ecology working group at the Community College and she is a member of it. They are looking for grants to run a program on agro-ecology at the Sustainable Center.

Commissioner Rotunda noted that she will be going to Washington, DC on Saturday with Climate Lobby regarding the carbon tax.

#### **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Urban Agriculture Zoning

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

##### **Schedule next meeting/ adjournment**

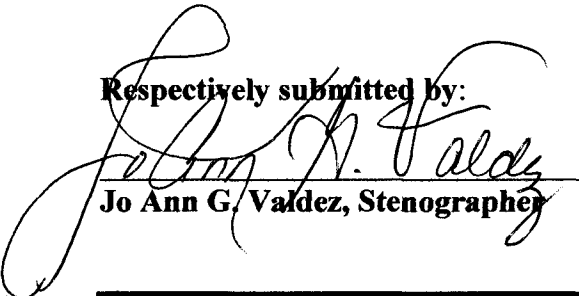
The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2013 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Commissioner Lujan will not be at the next meeting.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

**Approved by:**

  
Bianca Sopoci-Belknap, Chair

**Respectively submitted by:**

  
Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer



Search email



## Sustainable SF Actioneer's Report

Folders

Inbox 1

Junk 2

Drafts

Sent

Deleted 63

New folder

Quick views

Documents

Flagged

Photos

Shipping updates

New category



Esha Chiochio 6/19/13

To: MORTIMER, KATHERINE E., Amanda Evans, Andrea Rom



Esha

Sig

Already on Fac

Greetings,

Thanks for a great meeting yesterday.

Here is what I got for the action items:

ONEER'S REPORT for June 18, 2013

Assessment/STAR Community Index subcommittee will meet in the coming weeks.

People with organizational affiliations should vote to support the Bag Ban Resolution so that organization/business supporters can be listed at subcommittee presentations.

Bianca will ask Earth Care members to support the Bag Ban Resolution.

Louise will be a part of the Urban Agriculture Working Group to change the City Codes to make it easier for urban agriculture to flourish.

Esha will send out a Doodle Poll to establish a meeting time next week for the Energy subcommittee.

Sub-Committee chairs should communicate their initiatives with the Community Engagement Committee so that we can better engage the public in our efforts.

Green Fire Times can publish a monthly update stating what the Commission is working on. Submissions are due by the middle of the Month.

Kim will send out details about the Plastic Bag Ban. Plastic Bag Ban hearing on July 3<sup>rd</sup> with the Public Utilities at City Council Chambers at 5 PM (no public comment, but it would be good to have supporters in attendance). It then goes to the Public Finance Dept. on July 15<sup>th</sup> (Public Comment). This is the time to show our support to make sure that it goes through – please mobilize your affiliations.

It would be great if people could send in letters to the editor/My View and/or email city council members in support of the plastic bag ban.

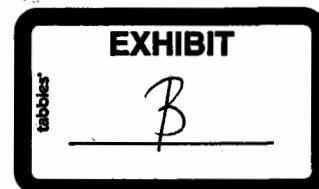
Bianca will send out a report regarding climate change and tree mortality.

Lisa will send out an article by Kyle Dickman in Outside Magazine on Fire

Content from I

Learn more |

© 2013 Microsoft Terms Privacy Developers



## La Montanita Earth Day Survey

La Montanita Coop in Santa Fe is considering the possibility of eliminating disposable paper shopping bags. It is with a vision of supporting our community and our environment that we look to go "bagless."

Do you support the Idea that the COOP should go bagless?

Yes

No

We realize that everyone still needs to get their groceries home, and that not everyone always remembers to bring their own bags with them. Therefore, we wish to explore packaging solutions that will most conveniently transport groceries for our customers. Please rank in order of most like to see to least like to see, where 1 is the most, and 6 is the least, the following 6 items.

\_\_\_ A steady and accessible supply of recycled boxes.

\_\_\_ Cheap (under \$1) re-usable grocery bags sold at cost.

\_\_\_ Give a bag, take a bag (where customers donate surplus re-usable bags)

\_\_\_ "Rentable" re-usable bags that may be returned with a deposit.

\_\_\_ Don't do away with paper bags, but start charging for each bag used.

\_\_\_ My suggestion, of Course! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

And in the spirit of Earth day, the following space is left for you to share any inspiring Earth embracing tales or any other green suggestions that you would like to see the COOP embrace. Thanks for your time! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU A MEMBER — yes — no