

Environmental Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2019

Colleen Bergmanis called the meeting order at 9:03 am

Present (order of introduction): Colleen Bergmanis, Jessica Ecker, Paul Williamsen, Beth Gorman, Nancy Freeman, Jorge Encinas, David Barnes, Jessica Brack, Natalie Nunez.

The disposal flyer was handed out to the committee, HHW was called off because the event wasn't found sustainable by the county. Jessica said they'd be happy to review the grant proposal again, but certainly would not be able to fund the whole event.

Review Minutes: None provided; no quorum. Notes were made available at the meeting.

Air: Paul Williamsen: Rains cleared the air

Alternate Energy: Eileen not present

Water: No subcommittee chair

Pima Couty DEQ: Beth Gorman: Air quality is great right now. All managers in different areas in their department happily said no; no news is good news! Winds from the fire are going West, not East, so fortunate for us. We had smoke from fire in Mt. Lemmon. Also winds from Wilcox brough particulates from there. ADEQ analyzes the contents of the particulates, and Erin Jordan from ADEQ is a contact to get reports on those findings.

Nancy Freeman made it a point that the rains we're getting were from hurricanes that just happened to occur during our usual monsoon season. Uranium content is the main concern. Because it is a heavy metal, it is definitely present in the groundwater. Desert soil was the findings of the larger particles, but the smaller particles are likely from combustion.

Freeport McMoRan: Jessica said that they have been working hard on managing the dust, but any concerns should go to Freeport so they can address it. David said that they put a report out through GVC of their dust. FMI has community advisor group CAG specifically on a biannual basis. Next one: December 10th, 2019 10am-11am at CPAC.

Environmental Website: Jessica Ecker will do a presentation of the webpage, discussion of what's expected from the committee, what is on the site currently, etc.

Other

Colleen requested a brainstorming session of what will incentivize the committee and get them interested in attending; she wants to get an idea of what the committee wants to do (informative, action, etc.)

Nancy responded that the community water people gave a report in the past, and the CAP money was never used for the water distribution here. They said it was not financially feasible to bring the water here. The corporation commission allowed customers to be paying for water that they are not getting. Not a dime goes against the CAP fee.

Paul said that the water pipeline is still impending on the funding from Rosemont. There was a handout that had an overview of the process. Partnership between FMI (2/3 of funding) and Walden Farms. FMI is providing water, and Walden farms saves on electric, doesn't pump from aquifer, and the aquifer is recovered.

Paul explained the "Know Your Water" forum, and suggested that that could peak interest and bring people to the committee meetings.

Colleen thinks a subcommittee that meets more often to talk about issues that interest them, what they're doing, what they'd like to do, and the chair brings that to the monthly committee meeting.

Paul recalled that GVC has had sponsored forums with 3-4 local recycle and trash collection companies mainly for members to evaluate who they would use but the same forum could be used to have them present latest on their recycling.

Beth Gorman emphasized that we need to try to reduce waste. Also with having a new chair, it may be beneficial to write a new article for the paper to introduce herself. Jorge mentioned that there are many avenues to try and get an article in the paper.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am