



City of Scottsdale
McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission
Regular Meeting **MARKED AGENDA**
Amended – Item 8 should read “2022”

Thursday, February 2, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.
Florence Ely Nelson Desert Park
8950 E. Pinnacle Peak Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

As a member of the Scottsdale community, I will genuinely listen; speak respectfully; and be accountable for my words and actions.

[View Combined Presentation](#)

1. **CALL TO ORDER 5:02 p.m.**

2. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Chairperson Laurie LaPat-Polasko, Vice-chair Marsha Lipps, Commissioners Steve Coluccio, Mark Hackbarth, Kerry Olsson

ABSENT: Commissioners Jeffrey Smith and Savannah Engelking

One or more members of the public body may be attending the meeting by telephone, video, or internet conferencing, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431(4)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Citizens may address the members of McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission during Public Comment. This “Public Comment” time is reserved for citizen comments regarding non-agendized items. Arizona State law prohibits McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission from discussing or taking action on an item that is not on the prepared agenda. Citizens may complete one Request to Speak “Public Comment” card per meeting and submit it to City Staff. Public testimony is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Written comment cards are being accepted for both agendized and non-agendized items and may be submitted to City Staff at any time. Cards submitted after public testimony has begun will be provided to the Public Body at the conclusion of the testimony for that item.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the Regular Meeting minutes of – [November 3, 2022](#)

The November 3, 2022 meeting minutes were not approved by a necessary quorum of the commission. Formal approval of the minutes will be on the next commission meeting agenda.

Commission Actions: Discussion and possible action

5. TOURISM UPDATE – Stephanie Pressler

Stephanie Pressler from Experience Scottsdale will update the Commission on tourism relative to the Preserve

Commission Action: Information and discussion

6. McDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY UPDATE - Melanie Tluczek

Melanie Tluczek, Conservancy Director, will update the Commission on recent activities and issues for the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

Commission Action: Information only

7. REVIEW OF THE BYLAWS – [View Bylaws](#)

The Commission will review the current By-Laws. Suggested changes, if any, can be made and brought before the Commission at the next regular meeting for approval. If no changes are recommended, the current By-Laws will remain as the governing rules for the Commission.

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible suggestions for changes

8. 2022 COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT – [View Annual Report](#)

The Commission is required to submit an Annual Report to the City Council for activities, actions and other business during the preceding year. Staff has compiled the main points for Commission review. The Commission can recommend additions, deletions and corrections to the report and approve it for submittal.

APPROVED: 5-0 by roll call vote as amended; motion by Commissioner Coluccio; 2nd Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Lipps and Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, and Olsson voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes

Commission Action: Information, discussion and possible action

9. PROTECT THE PRESERVE PROCESS UPDATE

Kroy Ekblaw, Preserve Director, will provide an update on the process to review costs and programs to protect the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, including but not limited to:

- Council and Task Force Forecast
- Previous Commission Forecast

Commission Action: Information and Discussion

10. STAFF REPORTS

Staff will update the Commission on projects, activities, events, and other information relating to the Preserve.

Commission Action: Information and discussion

11. UPCOMING MEETING DATES, LOCATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

All Dates listed are Tentative and subject to amendment:

- March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1

Commission Action: Discuss the details for future meeting dates, times, and processes.

12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

As per the By-Laws, the Commission will elect new officers at the first meeting of each calendar year. The Chair will be elected first then the Vice-chair and will assume duties immediately.

ELECTED CHAIR: 5-0 by roll call vote; Laurie LaPat-Polasko; motion by Vice-Chair Lipps; 2nd Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Lipps and Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, and Olsson voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes

ELECTED VICE CHAIR: 5-0 by roll call vote; Marsha Lipps; Chair LaPat-Polasko made the nomination; 2nd Commissioner Hackbarth; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Lipps and Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, and Olsson voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes

Commission Action: Discussion and possible action

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners may provide information on items of interest to the Commission.

Commission Actions: Information and discussion

14. ADJOURNMENT 6:49 p.m.

APPROVED: 5-0 by roll call vote; motion by Commissioner Coluccio; 2nd Vice-Chair Lipps; Chair LaPat-Polasko, Vice-Chair Lipps and Commissioners Coluccio, Hackbarth, and Olsson voted in the affirmative; there were no dissenting votes

Commission Actions: Motion to adjourn

The Commission cannot discuss or vote on items not on the agenda, including items brought up as Commission or public comments. If action by the Commission is required, the item should be placed on the next meeting's agenda to be consistent with the Arizona Open Meetings Law.



Persons with disabilities may request a reasonable accommodation, by contacting 480-312-2304. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance or as early as possible to arrange the accommodation.