

EPIC Meeting

Location: Civic Center Room 3109

Date: May 22, 2025

Time: 4:30pm

Facilitator: Melody Mascarenaz

EPAC Members			
Ronna Sanchez	Derick Singleton	Rebecca Perez	Trudy Smith
Renata Trisilawati (online)	Darci Martinez (online)		

Absent			
Lucy Molina	David Williams	Laura Martinez	

Guest			
Scott VanHeusen	Michael Kelley	City Councilor, Kristi Douglas	Mr. Hicks
City Councilor, Rocky Teter			

Staff			
Elizabeth "Libby" Tart	Melody Mascarenaz	Jean Gill	

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Items

- I. **Welcome and Roll Call** – 4:30pm Roll call and introductions of the group present and online.

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- II. Questions about EPIC** – 4:30-5:30pm Jean Gill, the city attorney for EPIC, introduced herself. She will not regularly attend the meetings but was present to address questions regarding the transition from EPAC to EPIC.

Jean recommends for anyone who hasn't done so already, to read the blue folders. They contain the prior resolution that had enacted EPAC as well as the current ordinance that enacted EPIC (to compare and contrast and really see what the changes are).

EPIC is still an Advisory Board. The main thing you'll want to focus on is the difference in the language under functions. That section gives EPIC all the authority and states what the goals are that you're supposed to focus on. It also covers what EPIC has the authority to do and what Council's expectations are from EPIC. The other main change is going to be that there's been some change in the membership - it's a higher number of members now. There will be 2 (two) council members officially appointed to the Commission. Then moving forward for quorum, EPIC will need 6 (six) of the regular voting members and then 1 (one) of those appointed City Council members to get quorum. Again the main thing you want to look at is the functions of EPIC.

*One item of note is that the City Council has not yet formally appointed 2 (two) council members to EPIC.

Several questions followed and are included in the recording and transcription attached in the email.

- III. Review April Minutes** – Tabled - Not able to approve the meeting minutes due to a lack of quorum. This will be done at the next meeting.

- IV. Budget Update** – May 2025 budget was reviewed.

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Short Term Goals			
Expense Details	Budget	Actuals	% Spent
Programs	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	0%
Total	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -	0%
Incidentals			
Category	Budget	Actuals	% Spent
Food Budget	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 827.00	33%
Swag	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0%
Marketing + Outreach	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0%
Total	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 827.00	15%

Trudy asked, do any of the outreach groups/three subgroups have a little bit of a statement about what budget they need?

Does the anti-idling group need more signs for your program?

Eventually, but we're still figuring out like what schools we're going to go talk to, once we do that and get approval from the schools.

EPIC outreach materials (swag) list was discussed, it was mentioned that Olivia was going to provide a grouping of things that she would recommend, and she was going to bring it with her to the next meeting. Libby provided a website to look at in the chat. The website is www.4imprint.com.

Trudy is working on outreach and recycling. She has recently had meetings with the recycling division of Republic and spoke with Cultivando. She is targeting an event for the end of July. It will be a luncheon and it'll be in the rec center with an estimated 35 attendees.

Trudy also discussed a grant Helping Neighborhoods Grow-Denver Foundation. The grant application has to go through council. Trudy will prepare an application, can prepare the statement and then send it over to Council for approval.

David and Rebecca have been working with Mr. Hicks, a science teacher at Lester Arnold High School. They've been talking about making a garden at that school so they can learn about environments and work with the younger kids that are also at that school because they have a preschool program. Mr. Hicks sent a little mockup of what we're thinking for the garden. Budget for garden is almost \$2000. They will probably need to find grants for additional funds.

- V. Appointing New Chair** – Tabled - this cannot occur until 2 (two) City Council are present, but the idea of co-chairs was discussed.

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VI. Yearly Update Presentation (Due June 18) – The presentation was put in the chat and will be sent out in draft for EPIC updates and edits.

VII. Open Floor– Libby Tart discussed the Garden in a Box program from Resource Central. E3 will be dedicating funding to 35 \$25.00/box discounts starting June 18, 2025. She provided information on the program and the website to join the interest list to receive notifications prior to the program start. <https://resourcecentral.org/gardens/shop/>

VIII. Closing – Meeting adjourned at 6:30

Action Items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
EPIC be invited to landfill	Melody Mascarenaz	TBD	Looking at schedule and trying to figure out dates in July or August?
Presentation to Council from EPIC	EPIC	May 22	Presentation sent to EPIC to work on in suggestion mode.
Appointing New Chair	EPIC	TBD	Postponing discussion to the next meeting. Until 2 (two) Council members added to EPIC
Provide Ordinance to Renata	Melody Mascarenaz	May 23	Done
Begin process of character development for mini con	Scott V.	December 2025	
Committee to come up with swag ideas	EPIC	June	Discussed, more info at next meeting
Susan Noble will send presentation	Council		Elizabeth will be responsible for emailing the presentation to all the committee members.