

# MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 10, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

El Cerrito City Hall - City Council Chambers  
10890 San Pablo Avenue

**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**



Corwin called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

### Roll Call

Chair Corwin, Vice Chair Miner, Members Benjamin, Dandridge, Goudey, Krueger, Pavel, Solari and Weinstein

Absent: Egherman, Spitalnik

Also Present: Garth Schultz, Staff Liaison, Janet Abelson, Council Liaison, Maria Sanders, Environmental Analyst & Melanie Mintz, Environmental Services Manager.

### 1. Comments from the public on non-agenda items

Mike Bulkivich spoke about his interest in attending the meeting. He has lived in El Cerrito for 82 years and does not believe in Global Warming or that people effect climate change.

### 2. Approval of the Minutes

Weinstein made the motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Committee meeting from May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 seconded by Miner. Goudey made the motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Committee meeting from June 12, 2012 seconded by Krueger. Motions passed unanimously.

### 3. Clean Water Initiative Special Meeting

Consider a motion to hold a Special EQC meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup> or July 31<sup>st</sup> (7 p.m.) as a community meeting to talk with residents about their thoughts and concerns about storm water pollution and funding to improve water quality. Each city will now have to come up with its own funding for clean water since the ballot initiative failed county wide with the exception of El Cerrito. Miner received a mailer and he said it did a poor job explaining why to vote for this initiative. There was discussion which day would be better for members to attend the meeting and 7 members would be needed to have a quorum. Mintz suggested a public meeting with co-sponsorship of the EQC and open it to the community. This meeting would be more of a Public Works meeting. The question came up of who would do the presentation, Public works or CC Clean Water. Benjamin made the motion to have the public meeting with co-sponsorship of the EQC for July 31<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Miner. Motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Green Team Subcommittee Meeting

Consider a motion setting the date and location for the next “quarterly” EQC Green Team Subcommittee meeting. Weinstein suggested holding the meeting at Canyon Trail Park in August on

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a Sunday. He had thoughts of holding the meeting inside of the club house from 10 am – 12 pm and having a tour first. He suggested having the meeting on Sunday, August 26. Weinstein made the motion to have the meeting of the restoration of Canyon Trail Park in August or early September seconded by Benjamin. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. Eco Film Series Update**

Goudey updated the Committee about the Eco Film Series. They were approached by Bay Food Shed's, a nonprofit organization proposing to show "Edible City". Staff forwarded the request to the EQC. Due to the long process of screening films at the Rialto Theater, the film would be shown in September or October. Goudey has screened the film before. The film is local (San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland) and is about food sovereignty issues, also slightly political but presented well. There is a scene in the film where a rabbit is skinned but it's not gruesome. Goudey supports showing the film. Miner watched the first five minutes of the film and liked it. He supports local film makers. Weinstein asked about the nonprofit organization and who they are. He believes not endorsing this film not knowing about the organization. The organization is interested in having a community access day through the city for fundraising. Miner agreed with Weinstein about not endorsing fund raising and does not support sponsorship of fundraising. Goudey suggested voting on it for information but not fundraising. Melanie Mintz suggested showing the film at City Hall instead of the Rialto along with other groups to be more collaborative. Corwin suggested waiting for more information about the film, the group, their agenda and fundraising until a future meeting and to move on with the agenda's main event (CAP study session). Dandridge asked why the group wanted EQC Sponsorship. Krueger answered so the group can access the Rialto Theater.

#### **6. Climate Action Plan (CAP) Study Session**

Maria Sanders led a 25 minute slideshow presentation about the City's Climate Action Plan. She is currently in the process of an administrative draft expected early fall and for council consideration by the end of the year. Then the committee broke out into small study session groups. The energy & water discussion group was led by Corwin and the sustainability & transportation led by Melanie Mintz. The break-out sessions met and discussed items (see report) and then reported out to the Committee.

#### **7. Announcements and future agenda items**

Councilmember Abelson reported that the City Council had passed the FY 12/13 Budget, with more potential State takeaways on the horizon, and also reported that the Council is still in negotiations with City unions.

Staff liaison Schultz reported out that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July "Green Campus" tabling event was a success, and made general announcements about ESD activities.

#### **8. Adjournment**

Corwin adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm.

*Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Environmental Quality Committee regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the El Cerrito Recycling Center Offices at 7501 Schmidt Ln., El Cerrito, Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*