



# MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, September 10, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**

**El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers**

10890 San Pablo Avenue

**This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible**

Miner called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

### **Roll Call:**

Chair Miner, Vice-Chair Goudey, Members Benjamin, Dandridge, Doan, Krueger, Solari, Spitalnik, Weinstein

Absent: Pavel, Wildenberg

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Environmental Analyst & Staff Liaison; Janet Abelson, Council Liaison;

- 1. Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – A member of the public, Robert Schatz, introduced himself.
- 2. Approval of the Minutes** – Weinstein made the motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Committee meeting from August 13, 2013. Seconded by Goudey. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Green Teams: Updates and Action Items** – Weinstein announced Green Team participation in Coastal Clean Up Day on September 21 with several creek clean-ups. He asked for volunteers to help with clean-up at Baxter Creek. He also reported that Friends of Five Creeks (F5C) is holding a clean-up on Cerrito Creek on Sept 15. Goudey asked for a motion to hold another Ivy and Broom Pull event at Arlington Park on October 26 between 10 AM and 12 PM. Weinstein proposed motion; Benjamin seconded; Unanimous.
- 4. Volunteer Appreciation Event** – Weinstein discussed logistics for holding an event to recognize volunteers that work on clean-up and restoration projects as part of the Green Teams and other affiliated organizations, such as F5C and Trail Trekkers. The event, including refreshments and music, will be held at the Recycling and Environmental Resource Center in the evening of Sept 19. He expressed concern that only 15 volunteers had RSVP'd. Environmental Services staff will send out one more email reminder before the event. Krueger will provide reusable food ware.
- 5. Fundraising for Purchase of Madera Property** - Weinstein gave an update on the Madera Property, which was purchased by the Trust for Public Land (TPL) this month. The City and

### COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

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community has committed to raise the funds to buy the land from TPL within 18 months. The El Cerrito Open Space Fund will run the fundraising campaign on behalf of the City, which will be the fiscal agent for the funds. The goal is to raise \$100,000. Weinstein and Goudey discussed using a Community Use Day at the Rialto Cerrito to show *Rebels with a Cause*, probably in November, as a fundraising event.

6. **Eco Film Series: Updates and Action Items** - Goudey reported that he will concentrate mainly on logistics for the *Rebels with a Cause* event. Weinstein proposed a motion to co-sponsor a fundraising event with the El Cerrito Open Space Fund to raise money for purchase of the Madera Property. Solari seconded; Unanimous.
7. **EQC Goals, Priorities and Potential Expenditures for FY13/14** – Goudey summarized the discussion from the last EQC meeting on EQC goals. Committee members continued the discussion, mentioning the following topics of interest: Pursuing Community Choice Aggregation (CCA); Providing energy education for residents; Developing green building standards; Supporting open space and the upcoming Urban Greening Plan; Helping to recertify El Cerrito Green Businesses; Educating citizens on impacts of climate change; and Educating citizens on grey water systems. Committee members expressed confusion as to whether they were being asked to take a lead in having public meetings on the proposed smoking ordinance. Sanders said that she would clarify with the City Manager's Office. Solari made a motion to form an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to review the list of potential priorities thus far and distill the discussion into a memo for consideration by the full Committee. Miner and Solari volunteered to be on the subcommittee.
8. **Announcements and future agenda items**  
Council Member Abelson reported that City Council passed the Single-Use Plastic Bag Ordinance and the Polystyrene Food Ware Ordinance, both of which will take effect in January 2014. Sanders reported that she would be out of town for the following 3 weeks to participate in a volunteer exchange delegation on energy issues in Ukraine.

These upcoming Meetings + Events were also mentioned

- July 20 EQC Green Team Clean-up Event
- July 23 Urban Greening Workshop #1: Vision, Opportunities & Needs
- Aug 03 Baxter Creek Work Party
- Aug 13 Discuss EQC goals, priorities and potential expenditures for FY 13/14
- Sept 21 Clean up the Northern Gateway to El Cerrito

## 9. Adjournment

Miner adjourned the meeting at 9:25 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 + Environmental Resource Center Administrative Office at 7501 Schmidt Lane, El Cerrito, Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 pm*