MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
POLICY AND PROGRAMS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 16, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Hillside (Second Floor) Conference Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue
This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Rome called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Rome, Miner, Corwin, Spitalnik, Krueger,
Also Present: Maria Sanders (Environmental Services Analyst and Staff Liaison)

1. Comments from the public on non-agenda items – None.

2. Minutes Approval – Motion to approve minutes from the September 28, 2010 Policy and Programs Subcommittee Meeting. (Rome/Krueger; Unanimous.)

3. Food Ware Policy Ad Hoc Working Group – Miner discussed findings from preliminary research he did on ordinances in Millbrae and Richmond in banning polystyrene food containers, including a discussion of financial costs and staff resources necessary to thoughtfully implement such an ordinance. Sanders provided written information from Garth Schultz on previous work done by both Environmental Staff and the EQC. Members discussed possible ways to work with businesses impacted by a ban prior to developing an ordinance, such as holding public workshops, conducting education via door-to-door outreach, mailings, posting resources on the City website, etc. Miner volunteered to develop a draft working paper on possible approaches in conjunction with Garth Schultz, Environmental Services Division staff.

4. Greening City Events and Event Spaces – Rome discussed an interest to establishing green requirements or guidelines for groups and individuals that rent space (clubhouses, community center, senior center, etc.) from the city. Members felt that users of city facilities would appreciate information that made recycling, composting, and purchasing green products (such as foodware) for their events easier. The City could investigate creating rules for renting space and ways to make sure all City sponsored events use green practices.

5. Climate Action Plan Update – Sanders presented a quick update on the community workshops to gather input for the Climate Action Plan.

6. Staff and other updates, and suggestions for future agenda items – Rome announced that she would be resigning from the Environmental Quality Committee.

7. Adjournment – Rome closed the meeting at 8:45 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 - Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION
To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille, or on cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call Garth Schultz, Staff Liaison at 215-4354 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.
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