



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 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 7:11 pm.

Roll Call:

Vice Chair Goudey, Members Benjamin, Schaadt, Weinstein, and Wildenberg

Absent: Chair Miner, Members Krueger, Solari, Spitalnik

Also Present: Greg Lyman, City Council Liaison; Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison

1. **Council/ Staff Liaison Report** – Sanders announced that member Solari is currently on parental leave. Sanders reminded everyone to be on time, as starting the meeting late inconveniences other meeting attendees. She also announced that Pavel is considered to have resigned.

Goudy welcomed new Council Liaison Greg Lyman, who reported on Council actions since October, including: approval of the new Street Sweeping contract; adoption of the Integrated Waste Management fees and Garbage rates; voter approval of Measure R; adoption of an Ordinance to join Marin Clean Energy and adoption the new Housing Element. Lyman also announced that the new Smoking Ordinance takes effect Jan. 1, 2015.

2. **Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – Trina Mackey introduced herself. Rebecca Milliken also introduced herself. Both have provided applications to join the EQC.
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to approve the minutes from both the November 12 and the December 9, 2014 meetings (Schaadt/Weinstein/Unanimous).
4. **Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)** – Goudy reported that the CCA ordinance will have a solid commitment from EQC to get the word out. Sanders gave update on next steps and the CCA outreach plan.
5. **Trash Mitigation Strategies** – Goudy expressed an interest in the EQC exploring ways in which the EQC could contribute in helping the City manage litter and trash. Schaadt circulated the City's *Trash Management Plan* (contained for viewing in the EQC binder). He expressed a need for more trash cans in litter hot spots, including more frequent pick-ups where existing ones quickly overflow. Weinstein made a proposal to help develop an assessment of trash can needs throughout the City. Schaadt volunteered to help. Weinstein also suggested that the City and EQC take an active role in working with BART, other public entities, and business owners to keep their properties trash free. Motion to create an adhoc subcommittee, including Weinstein and Schaadt, to develop a plan to engage the EQC in trash mitigation efforts (Schaadt/Benjamin/Unanimous).

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 Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison at 215-4361 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.

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6. **Pollinator Safe Communities** – This item was deferred until Solari comes back from parental leave. Weinstein announced a new exhibition at the Oakland Museum on bees.
7. **EQC Workplan, Budget and Calendar of Events** – Benjamin moved for the EQC to review the current Work Plan and prioritized projects to present to Council as part of their presentation on March 17 (Benjamin/Weinstein/Unanimous). Motion to hold the second Hillside Festival on May 17 or May 31 and the Music for Madera Festival on September 9 or September 27 to raise fund to support maintenance and restoration in the Hillside Natural Area (Weinstein/Schaadt/Unanimous).
8. **Hillside Natural Area Open Space Fundraising**– Weinstein announced that the property will transfer to the City near the end of January. The Open Space Campaign was able to raise over \$100,000 towards the purchase price, handily making its original goal.
9. **Green Teams: Update and Action Items** – Weinstein announced the upcoming clean-up at both BART stations on Sunday, January 25. Weinstein and Schaadt will each lead a team in each station area. Motion for the EQC to co-sponsor with Trail Trekkers a Broom Pull in the Hillside Natural Area as the next Green Team, date in February to be determined (Weinstein/Benjamin/Unanimous).
10. **EcoFilms** – Goudey interested in a film showing this year, probably sometime in the fall. Pavel announced that the League of Women Voters is looking at several events in the near future.
11. **Announcements and future agenda items** – The following items were discussed:

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Deadline for May – August REC Brochure – events due
- 2 Grey Water Education – TBD
- 3 Presentation to kick-off public comment period for the Active Transportation Plan – February
- 4 PACE update – February?

Upcoming Meetings + Events | more details online at www.el-cerrito.org/newgreen

- The William Huber Memorial Trail Hike -- Jan 20 Earth Day Lecture deferred until later meeting
- Schaadt to defer a previously suggested Earth Day Lecture until later
- Schaadt participated in Energy Upgrade program
- Pavel announced an upcoming event at the Silk Road House in Berkeley on Jan 25th from 3-5 PM on her trip to Kazakhstan.

12. **Adjourned at 8:54 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