



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 12, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Chair Goudey called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Roll Call:

Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Members Miner, Mackie, Spitalnik, Wildenberg

Absent: Members Benjamin, Milliken, Pavel, Solari, Weinstein

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison. Stephen Prée, Public Works Department.

1. **Council/ Staff Liaison Report** – Sanders announced that Sam Krueger, after an extended leave of absence, has resigned from the EQC Board. All EQC members expressed a deep appreciation for his work while on the EQC.
2. **Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – Charles Hargrove announced that he has applied to be on the EQC and has attended 4 meetings. Sanders will agendize consideration of his appointment for the next meeting. Catherine Krueger from the Crime Prevention Committee introduced herself and asked the EQC to co-sponsor a Green Team event with the Crime Prevention Committee. Goudey reported that consideration of this is agendized under Item #6.
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to adopt April 14, 2015 minutes. (Schaadt/Miner/Unanimous). Schaadt asked if minutes can be adopted if electronically submitted to the Committee, as a way of saving paper. Sanders to check.
4. **City IPM Policy** – Stephen Prée, staff from the Public Works Department, gave a presentation on the City's IPM policy, which was adopted in 2013. The County Clean Water Program is currently working on Guidance Material for all members of the County Clean Water Program to further implement the IPM policy. Mackie wanted to see the data on what types of pesticides and when they are used in the City. Since Prée collects this information as part of the City's Annual Clean Water Report, he reported that he could make the data available in September. Goudey remarked that it was a possibility to make removal of invasive plants along the Ohlone Greenway a Green Team project in order to minimize the use of herbicides on the Greenway. He further suggested that staff provide a plant identification training for volunteers if this were to be implemented.
5. **Draft Urban Greening Plan** – In advance of the staff presentation on the Draft Urban Greening Plan at next month's meeting, Goudey encouraged members to review the Plan.
6. **EQC Work Plan, Budget, Calendar of Events** - The following EQC activities were discussed:
 - Eco-Film Showings – Goudey reported on outcomes of the *Future of Energy* film showing, which took place on April 28. Spitalnik volunteered to coordinate a film showing of *Sand Wars*.

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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- Green Team Clean-Up – Saturday, May 16 – Schaadt gave an update on the upcoming Green Team Clean up to be held in the Del Norte area.
 - Co-sponsorship and Green Team coordination with Crime Prevention Committee. Catherine Krueger and Nick Arzio, both from the Crime Prevention Committee, requested that EQC consider co-sponsoring a Green Team Clean-up in the BART areas in conjunction with BART police. Other co-sponsors with Crime Prevention Committee could include the Human Relations Committee and NAACP. The event could take place in September. Schaadt endorsed the idea and volunteered to be on the joint, ad-hoc subcommittee to coordinate the clean-up. Wildenberg also volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Motion to co-sponsor a Green Team event with the Crime Prevention Committee and BART Police. (Mackie/Spitalnik/Unanimous).
 - Hillside Natural Area Festival – Sunday, May 17 – Goudey encouraged all to attend. Miner asked for volunteers to help at the bike park at the end of Snowden.
 - July 4th Festival – Sanders announced that the Festival will have a “Green Row,” or a dedicated section for booths with an environmental theme. Members discussed having an EQC booth at the event.
 - Music for Madera – No report.
 - Drought Awareness – Goudey interested in doing some type of event to educate residents on the drought. Miner and Schaadt discussed providing materials at the July 4th Festival.
7. **Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)** – Sanders reported that May is the roll-over month when electricity account holders will be automatically enrolled in MCE, unless they opt out. There is also a 2 month grace period for residents to go back to PG&E without paying the administrative fee. Miner reported that we have 365 Deep Green enrollments, on track to be the most Deep Green community in MCE territory.
8. **Announcements and Future Agenda Items** – The following EQC events were discussed:
- Upcoming Agenda Items
1. Urban Greening Plan – June
 2. Drought Awareness – TBD
 3. Grey Water Education – TBD
 4. Review of IPM Data – September
 5. Sustainability Train the Trainers events – TM suggested these workshops
9. **Adjourned at 9:03 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