MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 14, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall - City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Chair Egherman called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Roll Call
Present: Chair Egherman, Vice Chair Weinstein, Pavel, Corwin, Spitalnik, Miner, Goudey, Benjamin, Krueger
Absent: Huang, Dandridge, Hammer
Also Present: Garth Schultz, Environmental Analyst and Staff Liaison, Janet Abelson, Council Liaison, Maria Sanders Environmental Analyst

1. Comments from the public on non-agenda items
   No public comments made.

2. Approval of the Minutes
   Weinstein moved to approve minutes, seconded by Spitalnik. Approved unanimously.

3. Council Consideration of Letters in Support of Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)
   Miner presented a brief overview of Senate Bill 790 and Assembly Bill 976. Miner moved to recommend that Council support SB 790 and oppose AB 976, motion seconded by Weinstein and approved unanimously. If approved by the City Council, a letter for each will be signed by the mayor and sent to the appropriate senate/assembly members.

4. 4th of July Tabling Coordination: Volunteers and Messages
   Schultz solicited volunteers for 4th of July event and announced top priorities for promotion at the event which included: food ware, to-go containers, green business certification, July film event, community garden, green teams and green team events and committee recruiting.

5. Committee Goal Activity and Project Updates
   Policies and Programs: Miner announced a meeting set with restaurant owners for September 21, 2011 for 10:00 a.m.-noon. Seventy five restaurant owners will be invited to discuss transitioning to compostable to-go food ware. Schultz announced that he would begin working on a draft food ware ordinance soon.

   Miner then discussed a green business interview guide that the subcommittee has put together to outreach to businesses who have become green certified and members of the committee signed up to interview those businesses. The results of these interviews will contribute to the development of assistance and outreach efforts to assist businesses through the certification process in the future.

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 559-7684 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.

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**Community Involvement and Outreach:**

**Film Series:** Goudey announced the next film, *Bag It*, would be screened Saturday July 23, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the council chambers.

**Green Teams:** Weinstein reported on the successful June 11, 2011 Cerrito Vista clean up event which resulted in cleanup of the entire park. He also announced a possible July event for Baxter Creek, possibly doing native plantings, rather than clean up.

6. **Committee and liaison announcements, member announcements, and future agenda items**

   Schultz reported on the status of the plastic bag ban feasibility study. A CA Supreme Court decision is awaited and an EIR for such a ban will not be pursued until the decision is received.

   An RFP has been issued for rate and operations review of East Bay Sanitary and an August 25, 2011 public meeting has been set to discuss garbage and green waste service in the City.

   Schultz announced recruitment for the Committee.

   He also mentioned the completion of the multi-family dwelling postcards which are part of a recycling encouragement program targeted at apartment and condo dwellers.

   Abelson discussed the June 6, 2011 City Council meeting at which council approved applying for an Urban Greening grant for the development of a parks and open space plan. Also, a fire abatement effort is underway in the City with letters having been mailed to property owners of yards deemed to be fire hazards. The budget was also discussed at the meeting and all programs and services will be maintained. A new mission statement for the City adopted which includes elements of environmental stewardship.

   Sanders announced two rebates for commercial and residential energy audits and efficiency measures.

   A preview for *Bag It* was shown.

7. **Adjournment**

   Egherman closed the meeting at 9:04 pm.

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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.