



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, **September 8, 2015**, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Roll Call: Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Hargrove, Mackie, Milliken, Miner, Weinstein

Absent: Members Benjamin, Pavel, Solari, Spitalnik

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison; Beth O'Brien, staff.

1. Council/ Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports 7:15 PM

Sanders announced that there will be an herbicide spray on Ohlone Greenway this Fall in order to abate weeds. Goudey requested more information as part of the IPM presentation in October. Sanders also announced that Natasha Benjamin will be resigning as of next month.

2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items – 7:05 – None.

3. Approval of the Minutes – 7:10

Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the Committee meetings on **August 11, 2015**, as amended to spell Sean O'Connor's name correctly. (Schaadt/Weinstein/Unanimous).

4. EQC Budget and Calendar of Events – 7:15

- Green Team Clean-Ups – Sept 19 – Weinstein announced that the next Green Team clean-up will be on Cerrito Creek in conjunction with Coastal Cleanup Day and will be co-sponsored by Friends of Five Creeks and Friends of Albany Hill. There will be one more event scheduled in early November, maybe in combination with the Crime Prevention event.
- Music for Madera – Sept 20 – Weinstein reported that event planning & logistics going well and he thinks the turnout will be good. As the event planning is a lot of work, he is considering stepping down as the main event planner for next year's event.
- EQC Speaker Series – Goudey announced that the lecture on Plant Destroyers on September 30 is all set up and asked that staff help develop a flyer. Goudey also discussed setting up a lecture with David Seaberg, president of World Rainforest Fund, on the plight of the rain forests. Miner thought it might not have enough local connection that would enable El Cerrito residents to take action. Most members agreed there should be a local connection to any of the events sponsored by the EQC. Members agreed to postpone discussion and consideration of this lecture until after the New Year.

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.

- We Love Our Volunteers Event – Schaadt would like a re-imagining of this event in the future and also to postpone it until after the New Year. No objections.
- Green Team Coordination with Crime Prevention Committee (CPC)- CPC member Nick Arzio reported on plans to hold a CPC sponsored cleanup in conjunction with the EQC and other City committees. He asked the EQC to give participants a free Green Team T-shirt and that the CPC may consider sharing the cost of making the shirts. Motion to approve up to \$300 for producing more shirts for this and other EQC events and to try to use Fair Trade shirts. (Weinstein/ Schaadt/ Unanimous). Motion to approve co-sponsorship of CPC’s event and to combine it with the EQC’s normally held November cleanup, to be held either on Nov. 7 or Nov. 14 at 10 AM at the Del Norte BART Station. (Schaadt/Miner/Unanimous).
- Eco-Film Showings – Goudey reported that there has been no activity at this time. Hargrove mentioned the Sustainable Lafayette summer film series. TM suggested that all the films, workshops, and lectures be interconnected around a theme that would also connect residents to local activists. Schaadt liked the idea and thought that combining events would create economies of scale. Miner mentioned that the EQC often includes guest appearances at film showings.
- Drought Awareness – No activities.
- Workshops: Residential Energy Efficiency, Rooftop Solar, Bike Repair - Milliken presented general options for workshops that she could organize for co-sponsorship with the Ecology Center. Motion to co-sponsor a solar workshop with the Ecology Center for a date TBD. (Mackie/Miner/Unanimous).

EQC Work Plan 2016 – Goudey introduced a draft of the EQC Work Plan for 2016. Members discussed items in the draft for future revisions. Green Teams continue to be a core activity. Weinstein would like to see the following added un item 4 – Natural Areas and Parks: Increase open space acquisition and ensure continued public access to currently usable privately-owned open space; Increase building and improvement to paths and trails; Complete path and trail signage throughout city's network of paths and trails. Discussion to be continued during next Committee meeting.

5. Announcements and future agenda items –

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Drought Awareness - TBD
- 2 Grey Water Education – TBD
- 3 Train the Trainers/ Sustainable Living – TBD
- 4 IPM – October.

6. Adjournment – 9:00

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 p.m.