



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 13, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call To Order: 7:10 PM

Roll Call: Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Members Hargrove, Milliken, O'Connor, Pavel, Spitalnik, Solari, Weinstein

Absent: Miner, Mackie

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison

- 1. Council/ Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** – Council Member Quinto announced the results of the City Council elections and invited EQC Members to attend the upcoming Council meeting, when new Council Members will be sworn in. He also acknowledged the work of the EQC over the past several years.
- 2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – Richmond resident Cordell Hindler mentioned that the City of Richmond's library has a successful tool lending program that could be used as a model for one in El Cerrito. He also expressed a desire to have the Richmond Promise Program give a presentation to the EQC. El Cerrito resident Becky Miller introduced herself, saying that she submitted an application to become a member of the Committee.
- 3. Approval of the Minutes** – Weinstein noted that Justin Marquez's last name was misspelled. Noted and motion to approve the minutes from November 9, 2016. (Weinstein/ O'Connor/ Unanimous).
- 4. Climate Action Plan Implementation** – Milliken provided an update on the outreach initiative to Go Deep Green during the City's Centennial year with Marin Clean Energy (MCE). She reported on the number of MCE Deep Green accounts in El Cerrito: The City has the second highest number and the second highest percent of Deep Green enrollments in MCE territory. Milliken and Goudey reported that they attended the last Centennial Committee meeting and pitched the proposal for 100% for the 100th initiative during public comment. They've requested presenting the proposal during the Centennial Committee's January meeting. In addition, Milliken asked for volunteers to represent the initiative at community events. Spitalnik, Solari, and Schaadt volunteered. Milliken requested up to \$100 from the EQC budget to get a banner for event tables. Motion to appropriate up to \$100 for the purpose of producing a 100% for the 100th banner (Spitalnik, O'Connor, Unanimous). MCE will provide the print collateral for the initiative.

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.

5. **EQC Work Plan 2017** – Goudey asked Committee members to go around the table and state their personal interests and priorities for the upcoming year as it related to the Draft 2017 EQC Work Plan, circulated last month.

- Weinstein expressed an interest in expanding outreach to recruit more **Green Team** volunteers and to work with PG&E to foster community involvement in their work to encourage native habitat restoration on their Moeser Lane right-of-way.
- O'Connor would like more garbage cans in public spaces, to work on **climate action**, and to specifically work on **Green Team** cleanup activities in the Potrero, Cutting, Home Depot, and Baxter Creek areas.
- Schaadt thought that the Work Plan was good. He is interested in working more on **trash mitigation** strategies, expanding **Green Team** participation, and expanding Green Team activities beyond trash cleanup. He is interested in the 100% for the 100th **Deep Green** initiative, including getting local businesses to participate.
- Goudey is interested in **Climate Action Plan** (CAP) implementation, specifically the **Deep Green** initiative. He would also like to get more progress data so that the EQC can figure out next steps in implementing the Climate Action Plan.
- Milliken is interested in working on the **Deep Green** initiative and **CAP** implementation. She is also interested in figuring out ways in which residents can reduce their reliance on natural gas, especially by electrifying gas appliances and then using the 100% Deep Green renewable option through MCE. Outreach on this could be done through **workshops and educational events**. She also mentioned co-sponsoring **Drive Electric Week** next September. But she did want to explore if the effort would be too much for the EQC.
- Hargrove is interested in public **education and outreach events**, the **Green Teams**, including more outreach to include children, and the **Eco-Film** series.
- Solari would like to support more **educational events**, expanding **Green Team** participation, and getting more a progress data on **CAP** implementation.
- Spitalnik is interested in **public education and outreach**, the **film series**, and also to encourage more proactive involvement on **federal environmental issues**, considering of the latest election results.
- Pavel is interested in the **Eco-Film series**. She is also interested in partnering with other organizations to educate residents on **climate resilience and mitigation** and **engaging elected officials**.

6. **EQC Budget and Calendar of Events**

- EQC City Council Presentation – Goudey noted that the Work Plan presentation will be on Feb 21
- Green Teams – Weinstein provided an update on the upcoming Green Team events:
 - Del Norte Area Clean Up – January 14, to meet on the Greenway at Hill Street
 - Motorcycle Hill Work Party – February 25
- PG&E Moeser Lane Green Team – Weinstein reported that he is working with PG&E to schedule up to three work parties to removed invasive plants on the Moeser Lane right-of-way. He also met with Justin Marquez, who is investigating ways to recruit high school and college students to participate.
- Earth Day – April 22 – Committee members are interested in sponsoring two Earth Day work parties:
 - PG&E Moeser Lane Invasive Plant Removal
 - Madera Property Broom Pull
- Film and/or Educational Events – Pavel is interested in showing DiCaprio's "Before the Flood".
- Hillside Festival – May 21 – No activity.
- City Centennial Celebration – No reports other than as reported in item #4 above.

7. **Potential Collaboration with Albany Sustainability Committee** – Goudey reported that he attended the Albany Sustainability Committee's Nov. 15th meeting. They were interested in future collaborations,

including working with the EQC on a Drive Electric event. Solari thought it could be informative to have a member from that committee come to an EQC meeting to talk about their work.

8. Announcements and future agenda items

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Update EQC Work Plan – Dec-Jan.
- 2 USDA presentation on IVM and the Cape Ivy predator fly –Feb /March
- 3 Presentations from other environmental stakeholders in the City
- 4 Rat Poison and AB 708 Consumer Products Content Information
- 5 Drones in Hillside Natural Area
- 6 Invite John Gioia
- 7 Tool Lending Library
- 8 Richmond Promise Presentation
- 9 PCIA Policy Update
- 10 City Purchased Vehicles
- 11 Changes to Federal Environmental Policy

9. Adjournment – 9:10

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.