Minutes

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue
This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Roll Call:  Vice-Chair Milliken, Members Goudey, Hargrove, Miller, O’Connor, Sobul, Solari, Spitalnik, Tsutsui, and Weinstein

Absent: Members Miner, Pavel and Schaad; Will Provost, Staff Liaison

Also Present: Melissa Tigbao, Senior Engineer; Gabrielle Ruxin, El Cerrito CivicSpark Fellow

1. Council/Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports—Milliken announced that Miner could not attend, so she will act as chair. Milliken also announced that Provost was at a conference and introduced the CivicSpark fellow for El Cerrito, Gabrielle Ruxin.

2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items—None

3. Approval of the Minutes—Motion to approve the October 10 minutes (O’Connor, Weinstein, Unanimous)

4. EQC Member Appointment Process—Allison Kittleson submitted an application and has attended three meetings. EQC Members formed an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to interview Allison before the Committee’s December meeting.

5. EQC Work Plan 2018—Committee members participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding updating the Work Plan for 2018.
   • Milliken thanked Sobul for editing and reviewed the process for finalizing the new Work Plan.
   • Members discussed whether any items should be dropped from the Work Plan
     o Milliken proposed storing ideas for future consideration that will not be included in the Work Plan.
     o The tool lending library will be moved from the Work Plan to the ideas for future consideration
   • Sobul asked if the city is receiving any benefits for the new developments along San Pablo
     o Milliken tabled the question and proposed asking the City’s economic development staff.

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.
Members discussed this idea and how to better engage/communicate with other committees

Committee members identified activities on the Work Plan to lead and support

- **Milliken:**
  - Lead: Sunshares, EV awareness event
  - Support: Deep Green Business Outreach, Policy efforts, Tabling, Cleanups

- **O'Connor:**
  - Lead: Pollinator workshop, Earth day activity, Green Team work party, Green Team clean up
  - Support: Tabling, Year of the Monarch/Pollinator

- **Tsutsui:**
  - Lead: Pollinator workshop, pollinator habitat/connectivity programs
  - Support: Support acquisition of public open space, Review how city cares for its creeks and riparian habitat, Year of the Monarch/Pollinator

- **Weinstein:**
  - Lead: Hillside festival, Green Team work party, Support acquisition of public open space, Expand stewardship of hillside natural area
  - Support: Contribute to trash mitigation strategies

- **Spitalnik:**
  - Lead: Two film/lecture/workshop events
  - Support: Require three waste stream facilities, SunShares

- **Goudey:**
  - Lead: PGE partnership, Require three waste stream facilities, Require unit level metering, Review/evaluate CAP, Participate in data collection and analysis of CAP metrics, Expand stewardship of hillside natural area

- **Solari:**
  - Lead: Pollinator workshop, develop pollinator habitat/connectivity programs
  - Support: Expand stewardship of hillside natural area, Year of the Monarch/Pollinator

- **Miller:**
  - Lead: Tabling and other outreach activities
  - Support: Year of the Monarch/Pollinator, Two film/lecture/workshop events, Develop pollinator habitat/connectivity programs

- **Sobul:**
  - Lead: Deep Green
  - Support: Tabling and other outreach, EV awareness event, Require three stream waste facilities, Procurement/use of electric vehicles, Review/evaluate CAP, Participate in data collection and analysis of CAP metrics, all environmental related city programs

- **Hargrove:**
  - Support: Year of the Monarch/Pollinator, Two film/lecture/workshop events, Green Team work party, PGE partnership, Review how city cares for its creeks, Contribute to trash mitigation strategies, Develop pollinator habitat/connectivity programs

Committee members engaged in a discussion of the EQC website and social media presence

The volunteer appreciation party was moved from the Work Plan to the items for future consideration
- **Discussion of Objective 3: Policy Development and Advice**
  - Requiring three stream waste facilities and requiring unit level metering were prioritized
  - Revision of the environmentally preferred purchase policy and procurement/use of electric vehicles were combined
  - Explore a solar access ordinance and net hardscape policy was moved to ideas for future consideration

- **Committee members discussed Objective 4: Support of environmental related city programs**
  - **Weinstein** discussed acquiring easements of property in El Cerrito
  - **Goudey** proposed adding monitoring of the Urban Greening Plan

- **Milliken** proposed organizing presentations by city staff at future EQC meetings

- **Committee members ranked priority levels for all the Work Plan activities**
  - **Goudey** noted that degree of difficulty is not included in the priority rankings
  - **Weinstein** and **Sobul** agreed with the idea of adding a difficulty ranking

- **Discussion of EQC involvement in the Climate Action Plan (CAP) goals**
  - **Weinstein** proposed combining and shortening those bullet points and noting the EQC’s role as support to city staff
  - Monitoring of municipal solar production will be removed from the Work Plan and identified as a potential future agenda item
  - Electrification will be removed from Objective 4

- **Milliken** reviewed the next steps for the work plan, which include **Sobul** creating a new version, City staff reviewing the plan, and voting on the Work Plan at the December meeting

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

Heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:

- **Green Teams**
  - **Northern Entryway Cleanup (11/12)**
    - **Weinstein** reported that turnout was low at the most recent cleanup
    - **Weinstein** reported they mostly found microtrash around the Del Norte BART station; this may be an indication that pressure on BART was effective

- **Film and/or Educational Events**
  - **StopWaste Energy Upgrade Workshop**, October 17, Albany Community Center
    - **Milliken** gave a brief recap of the event and reported that over 70 people attended
  - **Film Showing – March 10**
    - Film subcommittee members agreed upon the film “Demain” and the date March 10
  - **Future workshops:**
    - **Workshop on Pollinators and Monarch Butterflies (Spring ‘18)**
    - Heat Pump Homes Tour (TBD)
    - Electrification (TBD)
    - Solar (TBD)

- **Spring Calendar of Events**
  - **Hillside Festival 2018 (5/4-5/6)**
  - **Earth Day (4/21)/ Work Parties**
  - **Film Showing (3/10)**
Green Team Cleanups
- January 28 - Creekside Park
- March 4 - Plaza BART and Ohlone greenway
- May 26 - Northern entries
- July 8 - TBD
- September 15 - TBD
- November 18 - Northern Gateways
- February - broom pull

- Motion to approve co sponsorship and dates for Green Team cleanups (Weinstein, O'Connor, Unanimous)
- Weinstein recommended that members attend the Friends of Five Creeks and Trail Trekkers broom pull on December 2nd
- Milliken proposed asking Provost of a way to invite members to events via calendar

7. Climate Action Plan Implementation –
Heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan, including the following:
- MCE Deep Green update + Restaurant Week
  - 3 new sign-ups this month via 100x100 page (51 total); 25 via other (84 total) =135 TOTAL
  - EQC awarded MCE’s Charles F. McGlashan Advocacy Award
    - Milliken reported that it will be presented Thursday 11/16 at the board meeting in Concord
- CCA & CPUC Updates
  - MCE Community Power Coalition
    - Milliken announced that Provost is looking into EQC’s involvement

8. Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan –
Heard updates on the El Cerrito Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Planning Process and reports from members of the plan’s Citizens Advisory Group.
- Public Meeting #1 - Saturday, November 18, 2017, 9:30-11:30am.
  El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane
- Public Meeting #2 - Thursday, January 18, 2018, 6:30-8:30pm.
  El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane
- Milliken encouraged members to take the survey online and will ask Provost to recirculate

9. Announcement and future agenda items –
Heard committee member announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items.
- Weinstein proposed adding an agenda item on Creek and Riparian Care for the December meeting
  - Weinstein will discuss with Provost about inviting Susan Schwartz to speak

10. Adjournment – 8:56 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 p.m.