

Minutes



REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 09, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call to Order: 7:02 PM

Roll Call: Chair Miner, Vice-Chair Milliken, Members Goudey, Kittleson, Miller, O'Connor, Pavel, Sobul, Spitalnik, Tsutsui and Weinsten

Absent: Members Schaadt and Solari

Also Present: Will Provost, Staff Liaison; Gabrielle Ruxin, El Cerrito CivicSpark Fellow

1. **Council/Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** – Provost announced that MCE is working on developing programs to assist in EV adoption. MCE is looking into subsidizing the PG&E EV charging station program. Provost also mentioned that members can subscribe to sub-calendars on the city website to receive automatic updates for events. Provost announced that former member Hargrove resigned from the EQC.
2. **Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – Steve Price, chair of the Urban Forest Committee, announced that Arbor Week will be March 7-14 and they would like to invite the EQC to join them for an ivy clearing event at Canyon Trail Park on March 10 or 11.
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to approve the Tuesday, December 12th minutes (O'Connor, Sobul, unanimous).
4. **Contribute to Plaque for Centennial Tree**– Provost announced that he spoke with Stephen Pree and the remaining funds needed for the plaque will be covered by the tree budget.
5. **EQC Budget and Calendar of Events**-
Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:
 - Film and/or Educational Events
 - Film Showing- “Demain” (3/10)
 - EQC members discussed options for the film showing, including holding it at the Council Chambers and moving the event to a later date
 - Miner announced that three speakers outlined for the film discussion include an elected official, a community advocate, and an educator/author or agency representative.
 - Miner proposed that the film subcommittee come back with a detailed plan for the next EQC meeting.
 - Future Workshops:
 - Workshop on Pollinators and Monarch Butterflies- (03/27)
 - Tsutsui announced that Peter Oboyski will give a talk for about 40 minutes and then people will be able to roam around.

- Some garden societies will also be present and Miller will have some informational items present.
 - The event will be held from 7PM-9PM at the City Council Chambers.
 - Motion to approve \$100 for honorarium and set the start time for 7PM on March 27th (O'Connor, Spitalnik, unanimous).
 - Heat Pump Homes Tour, Electrification, and/or Solar
 - Goudey will invite speaker to the February meeting.
- Green Team Cleanups:
 - January 28- Creekside Park, 10AM- 12:30PM
 - Co-sponsored by Bayview Fraternal Order of Eagles
 - March 4- Plaza BART and Ohlone Greenway
 - May 26- Northern Entryways
 - July 8- Cleanup TBD
 - September 15-Cleanup TBD
 - November 18- Northern Gateways- Baxter Creek
 - Weinstein announced that the Rotary Club and Friends of Five Creeks have signed on to co-sponsor events.
 - Weinstein proposed adding a future agenda item to discuss co-sponsorship with for profit companies.
 - Motion to authorize the EQC to support the Urban Forest Committee for an ivy pull on a date around Arbor Day at Canyon Trail Park (Weinstein, Sobul, unanimous).
- Other Events:
 - Broom Pull (Tentatively 02/17)
 - Hillside Festival 2018 (5/4-5/6)
 - Weinstein announced that this year's Hillside Festival will be simpler than in past years.
 - Earth Day (4/21)/ Work Parties
 - O'Connor announced that he plans to lead a work party.

6. Climate Action Plan Implementation

Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

- MCE Deep Green Update-no new enrollments
- CCA & CPUC Updates
 - CPUC Resolution e-4907 - impacting future CCA programs
 - Would impact LA County and Central Valley, as well as cities that have not joined an existing CCA
 - Hearing 02/08/18 in San Francisco
 - Milliken announced that the Clean Power Exchange has resources where members can learn more.
 - MCE Deep Green Champion- El Cerrito is now listed on the MCE website as a Deep Green Champion that has opted up to 100% renewable sourced energy.
 - Provost announced that the city has joined the MCE Community Power Coalition, which brings organizations together to increase access to affordable renewable energy.
 - Provost also announced that El Cerrito was ranked 13th in the country for the share of community wide electricity that comes from renewable sources and was given an award by the EPA.

- MCE Community Power Coalition
 - Milliken announced that in order to be a member of the CPC, you must be backed by an organization.
 - Miner proposed asking Council for permission to be a member of the CPC.
 - Provost noted that EQC members can join as part of another organization.
 - Motion to recommend staff to look into bringing EQC's CPC membership to City Council (Tsutsui, Sobul, unanimous).

7. Parks & Recreation Facilities Master Plan-

Committee members heard updates on the El Cerrito Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Planning process.

- Public Meeting #2- Thursday, January 18, 2018, 6:30-8:30pm
El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane
- Public Meeting #3 & #4- TBD Spring 2018

8. Work Plan Policy Recommendations-

Committee members discussed projects listed in the EQC's 2018 work plan and how to prioritize their completion.

- Goudey asked how new policy ideas should be introduced to city staff.
- Provost recommended creating ad-hoc subcommittees, writing an outline on the policies and setting up a meeting with the Building and Economic Development departments.
- Goudey noted that he would like to focus on three stream waste facilities and unit level metering for multifamily units.
 - Ad-hoc Subcommittee created for multifamily related policy issues: Miner, Goudey, Sobul, and tentatively Milliken and O'Conner.
- Miner suggested the EQC propose that the city revisit and tighten CAP policies.

9. Announcements and future agenda items

Heard committee member announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items.

- Bike to Work day was announced for March 10
- Weinstein announced a Trail Trekkers meeting on January 20th with a talk entitled "Living with Lions".
- Milliken announced that the State has an earthquake Brace and Bolt program to help make homes earthquake safe. Rebates are available for qualifying El Cerrito residents.
- Miner announced that Goudey found a list of Fixit Clinics coming up and he will attend the one in March at the North Berkeley library.
 - Goudey volunteered to be a Fixit coach for the clinic Saturday 1/13/18 in Oakland at the Dimond Branch Library.
- Pavel announced a Climate Change conference coming up on January 24-25 in Oakland.
- Provost welcomed Kittleson to the EQC.
- O'Connor announced that he would like to prioritize making signage for the Hillside Natural Area Interpretive Trail as well as the three stream waste policy.

10. Adjournment- 9:04 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.