



Staff Liaison
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MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

VIA TELECONFERENCE

<https://elcerrito.webex.com/elcerrito/onstage/g.php?MTID=e75a4039bcea4bcb853703321a72e62d1>

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Neil Tsutsui; Vice-Chair Beth Molnar; Members Howdy Goudey, Daniel Hamilton, Rebecca Milliken, Sean O’Connor, Paloma Pavel, Jeff Sobul, Renee Solari, Ellen Spitalnik, Sheila Tarbet, and Dave Weinstein
Absent: EQC Member Mark Miner
Also Present: Will Provost, Staff Liaison and Laureteen Brazil, City of El Cerrito Waste Prevention Specialist
2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
El Cerrito resident Chris Lynch made public comments noting his interest in serving on the EQC. Buddy Akacic also introduced himself and highlighted his interest in serving on the Committee.
3. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
Provost announced that the City installed a new Electric Vehicle Charging Station at the Recycling + Environmental Resource Center, partially using MCE grant funds. He announced that discussions were beginning to take place internally in regards to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan update including the EQC’s 2019 recommendations. EQC Member Hamilton announced that he is resigning from the EQC and that he will be serving on the Planning Commission for the City of El Cerrito. He offered his endorsement for Chris Lynch to serve on the EQC.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting on November 10, 2020.
Moved/Second: Members O’Connor/Hamilton **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the Minutes of the November 10, 2020 EQC meeting **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None
5. **APPROVAL OF THE 2021 MEETING CALENDAR FOR THE EQC**
Consider a motion to approve the regular meeting schedule for 2021.
Provost explained the process of approving a meeting schedule for the coming year and the proposal for all meetings to take place the second Tuesday of each month.

Moved/Second: Members Solari/Spitalnik **Action:** Passed a motion to approve the regular meeting schedule for 2021. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None **Abstentions:** O'Connor

6. ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND RACIAL FRAMEWORK

The committee discussed the City of Oakland's Equitable Climate Action Plan and use of a Racial Equity Indicators Assessment, the Contra Costa County Environmental Justice Assessment tool, the CalEnviroScreen tool, pursuing grant funding, forming relationships with other communities, and engaging people of color to have more representation on the EQC.

Moved/Second: Members Pavel/Solari **Action:** Passed a motion to form an ad-hoc subcommittee to conduct research and initiate the planning process to effectively guide the EQC with next steps in developing an environmental, social, and racial framework or assessment tool for future EQC efforts. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None

7. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The committee heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan. The committee discussed sending a letter to provide comments and recommendations as part of the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan – Environmental Impact Review (EIR) process including how the EIR should evaluate greenhouse gas impacts.

Considered a motion to approve a draft letter to be finalized by members Goudey and Hamilton.

Moved/Second: Members Tsutsui/O'Connor **Action:** Passed a motion to approve of sending a letter providing comments and recommendations on the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan – EIR with final changes to be made by Members Goudey and Hamilton. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None

8. EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The committee heard updates, discussed and considered possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:

- Educational Events, Films, and Workshops
 - Green Team Cleanups / Broom Pulls:
 - Dec. 13 – HNA Broom Pull at 11am, meet at Madera Circle
 - Baxter Creek (Bi)Monthly Cleanups
 - EV 101 Workshop (Dec. 9) - register at <https://tinyurl.com/electricvehicles101>
 - BayREN Workshop (Dec. 9) – register at <https://bayren1209.eventbrite.com>
 - Fix-it Clinic(s)
 - Earth Day 2021
 - Electrification Workshop
 - 7th/8th Annual Hillside Festival – May 2021?
 - SunShares 2020 – Debrief

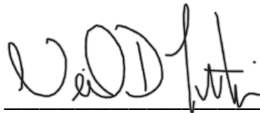
9. PLASTIC REDUCTION EFFORTS AND FOOD WARE ORDINANCE

Provost noted there had been no updates on the Expanded Food Ware Ordinance process or timeline since the last meeting.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

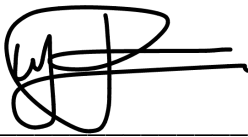
- Committee Education/Training on Equity and Environmental Justice
- Briefing from the Fire Department / How can the EQC help with preparedness?
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- PG&E Emergency Power Shutoffs
- Collaboration with the Urban Forest Committee
- EQC Collaboration with Young People in El Cerrito
- Tool/Toy Lending Library
- City Support for Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763)
- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- Community Member Suggestions (e.g. Meatless Green Mondays, Leaf Blowers)
- Real Property Transfer Tax Rebates for Energy Efficiency – Education
- EQC Skills/Resource List

11. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.



Neil Tsutsui, Chair

This is to clarify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Environmental Quality Committee meeting of **December 8, 2020** as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.



Will Provost, Staff Liaison