



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 8, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Miner called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Roll Call:

Chair Miner, Vice Chair Goudey, Members Doan, Krueger, Pavel, Schaadt, Solari, Spitalnik, Weinstein, Wildenberg

Absent: Benjamin

Also Present: Council Member Jan Bridges, Council Liaison, and Maria Sanders, Environmental Analyst and Staff Liaison

- 1. Council/ Staff Liaison Report** – Sanders announced that the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, signed a letter of support for AB 1504. She also announced that she will bring an item to City Council recommending acceptance of the World Wildlife Fund's grant to investigate Community Choice Aggregation feasibility. Councilmember Jan Bridges discussed several items that have come before City Council in the past several months, including a discussion to renew Measure R sales tax to support city services, the update to the Library Assessment, and the City's budget projections.
- 2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – El Cerrito resident Alan Hanger introduced himself and requested time to present an alternative to CCA.
- 3. Annual Elections of EQC Officers** – Motion to re-elect Miner for EQC Chair (Spitalnik, Weinstein, Unanimous). Motion to re-elect Goudey for EQC Vice-Chair (Pavel, Doan, Unanimous).
- 4. Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting from March 11, 2014. (Weinstein, Schaadt, Unanimous)
- 5. EQC Special Events: Updates and Actions** – Items discussed:
 - **Earth Hour Logistics:** Miner reported that about 10 people attended the event despite the rainy evening. He thought it was a nice event that would be nice to repeat next year.
 - **Home Energy Efficiency Workshop:** Sanders reported that there is a lot of interest in the workshop. It is now sold out and has a wait list.
 - **EQC Participation in Earth Day:** Sanders asked for volunteers to help staff the EQC table at the Earth Day Volunteer Appreciation Lunch to hand out materials such as the Climate Action Pledge and the Hillside Open Space Campaign. Miner, Solari, Krueger, and Goudey volunteered.

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.

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530 | 510-215-4361 | msanders@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

- **Grey Water Pamphlet:** Solari circulated a draft of a pamphlet describing grey water systems (contained in the EQC binder). Members volunteered to provide suggestions. Sanders will work with Building staff to also edit. The City can design in house.
 - **Drought Resiliency Workshop:** Sanders provided an update on the upcoming workshop. Solari made a motion to provide a speaker fee of \$125 for Greywater Action to have a representative present at the Workshop. Seconded by Spitalnik. Unanimous approval.
- 6. Eco Film Series: Updates and Action Items** – Sanders said that the showing of *Chasing Ice* at the Rialto on Thursday night April 17 was sold out. Pavel proposed reducing the length of the film to accommodate more time for the panel discussion. She also proposed a budget to bring a second sound system for the panel discussion. After discussion, Miner indicated that there was consensus not to change the format or to hire a new sound system. No objections. Pavel also circulated a proposal to host a new film event for May or June. After discussion, EQC members indicated that the timeline was too ambitious and ask Pavel to consider bringing the proposal back in the fall. Goudey mentioned a previous request to show Symphony of the Soil at the Rialto in June.
- 7. Hillside Natural Area Open Space Fundraising** – Weinstein reported that over 200 people have donated approximately \$33,000 towards the purchase of the Madera Open Space. The Campaign hopes to use a recognition strategy to get businesses to donate. Goudey reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission has voted to co-sponsor the Hillside Festival event on May 17. Motion to appropriate \$500 towards the cost of renting port-a-potties for the event (Schaadt, Weinstein, Unanimous).
- 8. Green Teams: Update and Action Items** – Schaadt gave an update on the Cerrito Creek clean-up on March 15.
- 9. Presentation on Abrupt Climate Change** – Due to the lack of time, the presentation by EQC member Doan was postponed until next month.
- 10. Announcements and future agenda items**
Future agenda items requested included:
- Status on Active Transportation Plan and other City Plans
 - Status update on Plastic Bag and Foam Bans
 - Pollinator Safe City Resolution
 - Doan’s presentation on Abrupt Climate Change
 - Follow-up on CCA
 - Status Update on Animal Ordinance
 - Revisit and Refine EQC Work Plan

These upcoming Meetings + Events were also mentioned

- April 10 Smart Approach to Home Comfort and Energy Efficiency Workshop
- April 17 Chasing Ice film screening and panel discussion at Rialto
- April 26 Earth Day
- May 1 Drought Resilient Home Workshop
- May 3 City-Wide Garage Sale
- May 4 Bringing Back the Natives Home Garden Tour

- 11. Adjournment** – Miner adjourned the meeting at 9:10 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 pm