



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 10, 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 7:03 pm.

Roll Call :

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

Absent: Wildenberg

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Environmental Analyst and Staff Liaison

- 1. Council/ Staff Liaison Report** - Sanders announced the release of the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan for public comment, the upcoming Commissions and Committees Appreciation Dinner on June 27, and that City Council approved sending a letter to the California legislature opposing AB 2145, per the EQC recommendation.
- 2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items** - Spenser Veale, a Berkeley resident, provided information on a residential solar aggregation project he is developing for Berkeley and neighboring cities.
- 3. Approval of the Minutes** - Motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting from May 13, 2014. (Schaadt, Doan, Unanimous)
- 4. Fix-It Clinic Event** El Cerrito resident Amy Rakely provided information on the Fix-It Clinic, a pop-up clinic that helps people fix their broken stuff. She requested that the EQC consider co-sponsoring a clinic event in El Cerrito sometime this year. Motion to co-sponsor a Fix-It Clinic at the Community Center or other similar facility, date to be determined. (Spitalnik, Krueger, Unanimous)
- 5. Presentation on Abrupt Climate Change** - EQC member Doan gave a presentation and engaged in discussion on the scientific research regarding abrupt climate change. Members expressed an interest in having more speakers on climate change issues. Copy of slide presentation included in EQC binder.
- 6. Community Choice Aggregation** - Miner reviewed the history of EQC interest in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) and reviewed the pros and cons of the various models presented to the EQC, suggesting that further investigation of joining Marin Clean Energy (MCE) was the least cost, least risk, most timely option available to El Cerrito. Members discussed the merits of this suggestion. Motion to recommend that Council request that MCE proceed with a membership analysis. (Solari, Goudey, Unanimous).

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.

7. **Eco Film Series: Updates and Action Items** - Goudey announced the showing of Symphony of the Soil at the Rialto on Saturday, June 28, between 10 AM and 12 noon. Pave invited EQC members to participate in several dates to preview in partnership with the League of Women Voters other environmentally themed films. Spitalnik volunteered to attend.
8. **Hillside Natural Area Open Space Fundraising** - Weinstein reported that the Campaign has raised approximately \$44,000 towards the purchase of the Madera Open Space. He also reported that the Hillside Natural Area Festival was successful and attracted approximately 150 people. He believes that holding this festival every year will continue to increase participants and asked the EQC to consider sponsoring the event next year around the same time in May.
9. **Green Teams: Update and Action Items** - Weinstein expressed concern that participation in the Green Teams is declining and that he needs help to publicize the Green Team events. Sanders will review with OESD staff how they can support these efforts. He proposed that the Green Teams hold the next clean-up on Sunday, July 13 in the Del Norte area. Motion to hold the next several Green Team events on July 13 in Del Norte Area, and on September 20, and November 15 places to determined. (Weinstein, Goudey, Unanimous).
10. **Announcements and future agenda items**
Goudey reported on his attendance at EBMUD Director Andy Katz's regional meeting regarding the drought.

Future agenda items requested included:

- Status update on Plastic Bag and Foam Bans - July
- Pollinator Safe City Resolution - July
- Status Update on Animal Ordinance - August
- Revisit and Refine EQC Work Plan - September
- Grey Water Brochure/ Workshop
- Next HNA Festival
- EQC Speaker Series

These upcoming Meetings + Events were also mentioned

- June 7 Baxter Creek Work Party
- June 28 Symphony of the Soil film showing

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