



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 8, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

**El Cerrito City Hall – Creekside Conference Room (First Floor)
10890 San Pablo Avenue**

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Chair Eggherman called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM (after the PACE presentation concluded and prior to the Committee voting on that agenda item).

Roll Call

Present: Chair Eggherman, Members Miner, Weinstein, and Dandridge, Rome, Krueger, Benjamin, Wong, Spitalnik, Brown-Lechner,
Absent: Benassini, Spitalnik, Benjamin
Also Present: Garth Schultz (Environmental Services Analyst and Staff Liaison), Janet Abelson (Council Liaison)

1. Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing Presentation and Recommendation

Mike Marcus with Renewable Funding LLC made a remote/webinar presentation to the Committee regarding the PACE program and the specific opportunities for El Cerrito and the Committee (see report). Mr. Marcus answered a few questions from Committee members and the public regarding how the program would work, what types of energy efficiency improvements would be covered, and whether an energy efficiency audit would be required (it would).

Motion to recommend that the Council approve joining the PACE financing program (Weinstein/Wong).
Unanimous. Passes.

2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items

None.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Garth Schultz, staff liaison, apologized to the Committee for not completing the minutes in time for consideration at this meeting. He will have them for the next regular meeting.

Chair Eggherman announced that an emergency item had come up, with respect to the EQC co-sponsoring a meeting on paths in El Cerrito, and proposed that this item be added to the agenda, as the Committee needs to act quickly in order not to miss this opportunity. Motion to add this item to the agenda (Weinstein/Krueger) passed unanimously.

4. Membership Recruitment Update

Consider a motion setting a Special Sub-committee meeting to conduct applicant interviews on Tuesday, July 13 at 6 p.m. and postponing the start of the Regular meeting until 7:30 p.m. to allow time for 4 interviews.

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 Garth Schultz, Staff Liaison at 215-4354 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.

Chair Eggherman announced the deadline for submitting an application to the EQC in order to be considered for membership on July 13 is July 6. He also discussed the requirement that applicants should have attended 3 meetings prior to applying to the Committee.

Motion setting a Special Sub-committee meeting to conduct applicant interviews on Tuesday, July 13 at 6 p.m. to allow time for 4 interviews (Rome/Dandridge). No further discussion. All ayes save 1 abstention (Wong). Passes. The Chair took volunteers to sit on the sub-committee: Eggherman, Krueger, Wong, Dandridge. Absent EQC members will also be invited to participate.

The Committee further discussed how many members to grow to. General discussion about the overall process. Various opinions about going up to 15, some yes, some no.

Motion to postpone July 13 meeting starting time until 7:15 (Rome/Dandridge). Unanimous.

5. Climate Action Challenge

Members of the Climate Action Sub-committee presented their draft Climate Action Challenge program (See May 11 report, page 8) and sought feedback from the Committee. Shared that the sub-committee would help to collect more surveys during the 4th of July celebration. They also asked for an update on the City's Face book policy (per staff, still pending).

6. Events / 4th of July Participation

Discuss details for EQC tabling presence, in conjunction with the Environmental Services Division, at the annual 4th of July Celebration and encourage members and volunteers to sign up for tabling shifts.

EQC members discussed the details of the upcoming 4th of July Festival, and staff asked members and community volunteers to sign up for shifts. Discussion of what to have at the booths. General fliers, Green Teams, Paths, etc.

7. Committee and liaison announcements and future agenda items

Green Teams (Weinstein) – Announced 6/19 Clean-up & Flyer.

Green Teams (Weinstein/Mitchell) – Announced 6/26 Ivy Clean-up @ Senior Center

Green Teams (Weinstein/Mitchell) – Cerrito Theater Strip behind the Theater has been well cleaned up, thanks Robin.

Broom Removal on Earth Day! Very successful.

New item for possible future agenda per Rome – ballot initiative to suspend AB 32, potentially consider a motion to recommend opposition from the Council? Janet says she can just take care of it – not necessary.

8. Paths Working Group

Weinstein gave the overview of the proposed meeting and the purpose, to develop community involvement in El Cerrito trails and paths, like the Berkeley Path Wanderers. Motion to co-sponsor the paths event on July 15, 7 p.m. in City Hall (Weinstein/Miner). Discussion: none. Passes unanimously.

9. Adjournment

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 Center Offices at 7501 Schmidt Ln., El Cerrito, Monday - Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.