



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 11, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Chair Goudey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Roll Call:

Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Members Benjamin, Hargrove, Miner, Solari, Spitalnik, Weinstein.

Absent: Milliken, Mackie, Pavel

Also Present: Greg Lyman, Council Liaison; Melissa Tigbao, Staff Liaison; Beth O'Brien, Note Taker

1. Council/ Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports

Councilmember Greg Lyman reported on significant actions taken by the City Council since April 2015. Substitute Staff liaison Melissa Tigbao introduced herself and reported on progress with completion of the Active Transportation Plan.

2. Comments from the public on non-agenda items

Resident Shawn O'Connor reported that he took environmental action by emailing his Congressman to ban all styrofoam, paper, and plastic to save our trees.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Goudey submitted correction for June 9, 2015 minutes: Goudey had proposed 3 potential speakers for one EQC Speaker Series talk. Motion to adopt June 9 and June 30 minutes (Schaadt/Miner/Unanimous).

4. EQC Work Plan, Budget, Calendar of Events

Committee Members participated in discussion regarding planning and logistics for the following EQC events:

- July 4th Festival Debrief – The event was well-staffed by EQC members. Weinstein thinks EQC could have done a better job publicizing events and getting emails for outreach.
- Green Team Clean-Ups – Weinstein reported that the last event was poorly attended. He reported that the City only sent out one email blast and that maybe more than one should go out. In order to get the word out, members thought more outreach materials and more email blasts, possibly in conjunction with a community group. The next Clean Up will be at Cerrito Park on Coastal Cleanup Day, September 19.
- EQC Speaker Series – Weinstein reported that 80 people attended Jerry Kent's talk on the East Bay Forests. Goudey reported that the talk on plant pathogens could be held in City Hall on Wed. Sept. 30 at 7:00 PM. Goudey interested in doing a second talk on Sudden Oak Death on September 22. But the date for the Sudden Oak Death talk conflicts with Yom Kippur and staff schedules. Motion to sponsor the talk on September 30 and postpone the Sudden Oak Death talk to a future date. (Goudey/Weinstein/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.

- Music for Madera – Weinstein reported that the event will be staffed by someone from the Recreation Department. He is still in need of more volunteers and items for the silent auction.
- We Love Our Volunteers Event – Goudey proposed postponing doing this event in October, as there was not enough momentum to do so. Miner thought that it would be better to get more commitment from Green Team members first. Other ideas discussed were getting an updated volunteer list; and doing it in conjunction with a cleanup, maybe during the day.
- Green Team coordination with Crime Prevention Committee -- Schaadt reported that members of the Crime Prevention Committee will be holding a meeting on this event on August 19.
- Eco-Film Showings – Goudey had nothing to report and thought that the EQC should form an ad-hoc subcommittee to keep the series going.
- Drought Awareness – Goudey had nothing specific to report. Other committee members shared resources on water conservation and grey water.
- Sponsor workshop with MCE on Residential Efficiency – Nothing reported.

5. **Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)** – Goudey reported that El Cerrito has the most Deep Green enrollments of any city in MCE territory. Of the 472 Deep Green enrollments, the overwhelming majority are residential, pointing to a need to do more Deep Green outreach to businesses. He also reported that the City’s electricity accounts are currently enrolled in Light Green, pending an analysis by staff on which ones should be enrolled in Deep Green.

6. **Announcements and future agenda items** – The following announcements were made:

- Goudey announced that he attended a Tree Committee meeting. They have finished the Master City Tree List. He also discussed that the City was bequeathed a 1.6-acre property on Galvin and Moeser Lane, called the Rosenberg Property. The property requires a lot of work before it can become a usable park.
- Weinstein announced that the National Park Service is almost finished with the Hillside Natural Area wayfinding signs.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Drought Awareness - TBD
- 2 Grey Water Education – TBD
- 3 Roof Top Solar Workshop – TBD
- 4 Bike Repair Workshop – TBD
- 5 Train the Trainers/ Sustainable Living - TBD

7. **Adjournment** – 8:54

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.