



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 9, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call To Order: 7:05 PM

Roll Call: Chair Goudey, Vice-Chair Schaadt, Members Hargrove, Mackie, Miner, Pavel, Spitalnik, Weinstein

Absent: Milliken, Solari,

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Staff Liaison

- **Council/ Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** – Sanders announced that Sean O'Connor, resident of El Cerrito, submitted an application to be on the EQC.
- **Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – El Cerrito resident Sean O'Connor reported that he noticed a lot of trash in the Del Norte Station area. Richmond resident Cordell Hindler announced that he is working for Richmond Promise and thought it would be a good idea for this program to come and provide a presentation on their work.
- **Approval of the Minutes** – Sanders reported that she was unable to complete the minutes for July 12, 2016, so this item was deferred until next month.
- **Conversation with the El Cerrito Building Official** – Mark Soltes, the El Cerrito Building Official, introduced himself and answered members' questions as they related to implementation of the Building Code and green building practices. Specifically, the City will be adopting the 2016 update to Title 24 energy standards in October for an effective date of January 1, 2017. El Cerrito follows the basic tier of the CalGreen Building Code. Laundry-to-Garden grey water systems can be done without a permit if the design meets the 12 parameters outlined in the Building Code. Soltes requested that people planning on doing these systems to check in with the Building Counter so that the City can provide a courtesy review. EQC members expressed an interest in knowing how they could be helpful on grey water issues. Soltes thought that public information on grey water guidelines would be very helpful. The City follows the state checklist in approving solar permits.
- **Watershed Alliance Coastal Clean-Up Day** – Paula White from the Watershed Project provided information on regional trash collection efforts through Coastal Clean Up Day. She requested that the EQC's Coastal Clean Up event start collecting data on trash collected on site. She provided the group with a copy of their Rapid Trash Assessment tally card.

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.

- **EQC Budget and Calendar of Events**

- Green Teams Coastal Clean Up Day and Del Norte BART Area Clean-Up – Paul White of the Watershed Project will continue to help coordinate the Coastal Clean Up event with co-sponsor Friends of Five Creeks and City staff member Stephen Pre. She will provide more training and resources for collecting trash data at the event. Shaadt and Weinstein will coordinate the Green Team event on Saturday, August 27 in the Del Norte BART Station area.
- Grey Water Education – Mackie made a motion to approve a budget of \$200 for the water conservation workshop scheduled for September 27, primarily to pay the speaker from GreyWater Action. (Mackie/Spitalnik/Unanimous).
- National Drive Electric Week – No activity to report.
- Solar Workshop - No activity to report.
- Eco-Film Series – Pavel introduced the idea of putting together a film festival of environmental shorts. Members discussed potential formats and next steps. Motion to form an ad-hoc subcommittee to review films and plan the event. (Goudey/Weinstein/ Unanimous). Pavel, Spitalnik, and Hargrove volunteered to be on the subcommittee.
- **Climate Action Plan Implementation** – Pavel reported that she is active in a regional effort called the Resilient Community Initiative on Sea Level Rise. She offered to provide more information on that during the next meeting. No other activity to report.
- **Announcements and future agenda items** – Weinstein announced that the Parks and Recreation Commission approved plans and funding for the way-finding signs for the Hillside Natural Area. Miner announced that Weinstein will be inducted onto the City’s official Wall of Fame at the August 16 City Council meeting. Mackie provided some neighborhood feedback on lawn maintenance at Lower Canyon Park.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Trash Mitigation Strategies - Sept
- 2 Trends in Solid Waste Management –Oct
- 3 Presentations from other environmental stakeholders in the City – TBD
- 4 Rat Poison and AB 708 Consumer Products Content Information- TBD
- 5 Drones in Hillside Natural Area – TBD
- 6 Conversation with Supervisor John Gioia – TBD
- 7 Tool Lending Library – TBD

- **Adjournment – 9:00**

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.