



Minutes

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 14, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place Is Wheelchair Accessible

Call to Order: 7:04 PM

Roll Call: Chair Miner, Members Goudey, Molnar, Moreno, O'Connor, Pavel, Sobul, Solari, Spitalnik, Tabet, Tsutsui, Verrier, and Weinstein

Absent: Members Kittleson, Milliken

Also Present: Maria Sanders, Operations + Environmental Services Manager

1. **Council/Staff Liaisons Announcements and Reports** – Maria Sanders mentioned she was serving in the place of the current EQC Staff Liaison Will Provost while he is on vacation.
2. **Comments from the public on non-agenda items** – Cordell Hindler of Richmond suggested more young people should be involved in City of El Cerrito committees.
3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Motion to approve the Tuesday, July 10th minutes (O'Conner, Weinstein, unanimous).
4. **Presentation on Plastic Straws** – Barbara Chan and the El Cerrito Progressives' Environmental Justice Committee gave a presentation on the pollution and environmental issues caused by plastic straws and plastic in general. They discussed ordinances that have been passed locally and internationally to control or ban plastic waste and suggested that El Cerrito amend its foodware ordinance to ban plastic straws. They also highlighted the damage being caused to the environment by single-use plastic and the potential for policy-making at the state and local level.
5. **EQC Budget and Calendar of Events** – Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:
 - 10th Anniversary Volunteer Recognition Event –
 - Recycling Center - October 4, 6:30pm?
 - Committee members discussed if the date should be moved.
 - Educational Events, Films, and Workshops:
 - East Bay Electrification Expo (Feb 2019)
 - Electrification Homes Tour or Workshop
 - Fixit Clinic – October 27, 12:30-4:00
 - Pavel discussed two potential films, “Trees in Trouble” and “The Albatross” and asked to reconvene the ad-hoc film subcommittee to organize the event. Verrier, Pavel, Spitalnik, and Tabet volunteered to assist.
 - Green Team Cleanups:
 - September 15 – Cleanup Cerrito Creek, Coastal Cleanup Week, 10am
 - Weinstein urged EQC members to attend the Coast Cleanup event.

- November 18 – Northern Gateways-Baxter Creek
 - Other Events:
 - National Drive Electric Week Event in Berkeley
September 15, 11am – 3pm
Berkeley Civic Center Park, 1940 Allston Way, Berkeley
 - Motion to approve additional \$100 in funding for a Green Art Workshop at the event (Goudey, Sobul, unanimous).
 - Molnar asked EQC members to register for the event and to help get more attendees. Goudey volunteered to hand out materials at the event.
6. **SunShares (Starting August 2018)** – Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion, and considered possible action items to increase the success of the 2018 SunShares program.
- SunShares Workshop, October 15 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, El Cerrito City Hall
 - Sanders reminded Committee members about the upcoming SunShares workshop.
7. **Climate Action Plan Implementation** – Committee members heard updates, participated in discussion, and considered possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan.
- Living Lightly Campaign - MCE Deep Green
 - 19 sign-ups as of 8/1/2018
 - Goudey announced that the Living Lightly effort now has 22 sign-ups.
 - CCA & CPUC Updates
 - Miner reported that MCE and local partners are going to Sacramento to oppose AB 813, which would regionalize the power mix in the Western United States.
 - MCE EV Program
 - MCE Presenting to City Council on EVs at August Council Meeting (8/21).

8. Announcements and future agenda items – 8:50

Committee members heard announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items. Pavel announced that starting on September 12 the Bay Area will be hosting a Global Climate Action event. She also mentioned Berkeley is hosting a town hall and declaring a Climate Emergency in anticipation of the event. Miner mentioned the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan and asked if the EQC wanted to discuss any topics in the public draft of the Plan.

Consideration of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1 Next Steps for Policies in Work Plan
- 2 Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- 3 City Purchased Vehicles
- 4 Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- 5 Partner with LimeBike on event/education
- 6 Green Infrastructure Plan Public Meeting
- 7 Climate Action Plan Implementation Update
- 8 Single-Use Plastics and Plastic Straws
- 9 Presentation on Recycling Markets and Plastic Free July

9. Adjournment – 9:05 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 p.m.