



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Staff Liaison
Will Provost | (510) 525-7622
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City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Milliken called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Rebecca Milliken; Vice-Chair Neil Tsutsui; Members Howdy Goudey, Daniel Hamilton, Mark Miner, Elizabeth (Beth) Molnar, Alison Moreno, Paloma Pavel, Jeff Sobul, Renee Solari, Ellen Spitalnik, Gisele Verrier, and Dave Weinstein
Absent: Members Sheila Tarbet and Sean O'Connor
Also Present: Will Provost, Staff Liaison
2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** – None
3. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
Provost spoke about how the City will be receiving a prestigious Beacon Award for achievements in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate change. He also noted the importance of providing prior notice if a Committee member will be absent or tardy for a Committee meeting, to avoid issues with obtaining a quorum.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting on August 13, 2019.
Moved/Second: Members Weinstein/Molnar **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the **August 13, 2019** EQC meeting **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None
Abstentions: Tsutsui, Sobul, and Solari
5. **EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS**
Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding planning, logistics, and expenditures for the EQC calendar of events, including:
 - Educational Events, Films, and Workshops
 - National Drive Electric Week Event
 - Berkeley Event (Saturday, Sept 14, 11 AM – 3PM)
 - Milliken outlined the plan for the event and Goudey volunteered to table at the event.
 - Richmond Event (Thursday, Sept 19, 12 PM – 3PM)
 - Provost noted that the City would staff a table.
 - SunShares 2019 Participation (August – November)

- El Cerrito Workshop, October 3, 6:30 PM at City Hall
- EV 101 Workshop (Jan - Feb)
 - Milliken volunteered to work with Provost to schedule a potential date at City Hall.
- BayRen Energy Efficiency Workshop (March)
 - Committee members discussed the BayRen programs and stated that the programs are improving to more easily allow residents to electrify their homes.
- Film Event 2020
 - **Moved/Second:** Members Pavel/Miner **Action:** Form an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to put together a film proposal for 2020. The Subcommittee will consist of members Pavel, Tarbet, Miner, and Spitalnik **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None
- Hillside Festival - Weinstein proposed setting the Annual Hillside Festival to take place on the first weekend of May 2020. Committee members will discuss further at the October meeting.
- Green Team Cleanups:
 - Aug. 17, Saturday, Ohlone Greenway – Debrief
 - Weinstein highlighted the issue of trash and litter, which has become especially problematic around the del Norte BART station.
 - September 21, Saturday, Coastal Cleanup Event
 - Nov. 2, Saturday, Baxter Creek

6. CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Hear updates, participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

- Update to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan
 - Robin Mitchell, El Cerrito, discussed the idea of requiring development projects to use zero net energy.
 - **Moved/Second:** Members Weinstein/Solari **Action:** Approve of the drafted EQC letter, as amended, to City Staff and the Planning Commission outlining recommendations to the San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None
- Climate Emergency Declaration – Debrief
 - Provost provided an overview of a resolution declaring a Climate Emergency that was approved by the City Council on August 20.
 - Hamilton noted that 985 jurisdictions around the globe have passed similar resolutions to date.
- MCE Deep Green Initiative - "20K by 2020"
- CCA & CPUC Updates
 - Milliken described MCE's Electric Vehicle Program.
- Implementation and Financing Options

7. COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE

Participate in discussion and consider possible action items regarding collaborating with the City's Urban Forest Committee.

- Committee members discussed having a standing item on the agenda to talk about how to partner with the UFC.

8. EQC “YEAR OF PLASTIC POLLUTION PREVENTION” IMPLEMENTATION

Hear updates, participate in discussion, and consider possible action items regarding implementation of the EQC’s “Year of Plastic Pollution Prevention”.

- Update on Development of Expanded Food Ware Ordinance
- Educate Community on Recycling Market Changes
 - Verrier discussed the idea of partnering with the Economic Development Committee during Restaurant Week.
 - Pavel and Spitalnik discussed how the City can support businesses that are already using environmental best practices.
- SB1383 and AB1826 Update
 - Provost provided an update on State requirements for recycling and composting that the City is in the process of implementing.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Hear committee member announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items. Potentially engage in discussion and make decisions regarding logistics of EQC consideration of items including:

- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- City Purchased Vehicles
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- Brown Act Presentation from City Clerk
- Wildfire Preparedness and Potential Efforts around Smoke/Air Pollution
- Collapse of Insect Population
- Meatless “Green Mondays”
- Environmental Quality Volunteer Awards – Formalizing and Renaming
- Lending Libraries for Tools, Toys, etc.
- Pest Management and Local Wildlife (e.g. raptors)
- Coyote Education
- RPTT Rebates for Energy Efficiency – Education
- PG&E Emergency Power Shutoff
- EQC Skills/ Resource List

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, highlighted the upcoming Mayors Conference and the desire to see the EQC have a presentation on the Brown Act.

Weinstein highlighted two upcoming El Cerrito Trail Trekkers Events.

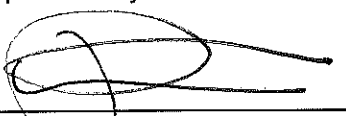
Verrier spoke of a desire to move forward with a conversation on coyotes and proper pest management.

10. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.



Rebecca Milliken, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Environmental Quality Committee meeting of **September 10, 2019** as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.



Will Provost, Staff Liaison