



Staff Liaison
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MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

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

- 1. ROLL CALL** – Chair Neil Tsutsui; Vice-Chair Beth Molnar; Members Howdy Goudey, Daniel Hamilton, Rebecca Milliken, Mark Miner, Sean O'Connor, Paloma Pavel, Jeff Sobul, Renee Solari, Ellen Spitalnik, and Dave Weinstein
Absent: Member Sheila Tarbet
Also Present: Will Provost, Staff Liaison; Laureteen Brazil, City of El Cerrito Waste Prevention Specialist
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Mary Torrusio, a member of the City's Urban Forest Committee, introduced herself to the EQC.
- 3. COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
Provost provided an update on the adopted amended budget for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year and provided an overview of the City's fiscal response plan. Budget reductions, including furloughs and reductions in staff, were briefly discussed. He also reported on a large hazardous fuel reduction project underway in the City's Hillside Natural Area.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting on September 8th, 2020.
Moved/Second: Members Hamilton/Miner **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the September 8, 2020 EQC meeting **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None **Abstentions:** Members Pavel, Sobul, and Solari
- 5. EQC WORK PLAN 2021**
The Environmental Quality Committee reviewed the 2020 workplan and discussed changes and additions to create the Committee's workplan for 2021. Sobul volunteered to compile proposed changes. A draft of the 2021 workplan will be reviewed and discussed at the November 10, 2020 meeting.

6. **EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The Committee participated in discussion and considered possible action items related to the EQC Calendar of events, including:

- Educational Events, Films, and Workshops
 - Green Team Cleanups / Broom Pulls
 - Oct. 24 – Northern Entryways
 - Fix-it Clinic(s)
 - SunShares 2020 (register at www.bayareasunshares.org)
 - Earth Day 2021?
 - Electrification Workshop
 - 7th/8th Annual Hillside Festival – May 2021?
 - Coastal Cleanup Self-Guided Events – Debrief
 - Bike to Wherever Day - Debrief
 - National Ride Electric Week Events

7. **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND RACIAL FRAMEWORK**

The Committee discussed some activities related to this item while discussing the development of the 2021 workplan and coordinating the EQC's calendar of events. At the upcoming meetings, the Committee intends to continue the discussion on potential steps for the EQC to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

8. **CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

The Committee discussed activities related to this item while discussing the development of the 2021 workplan and coordinating the EQC's calendar of events. The Committee intends to continue to discuss Climate Action Plan Implementation at future meetings.

9. **PLASTIC REDUCTION EFFORTS AND FOOD WARE ORDINANCE**

Provost provided a brief update on the status of the City's proposed Expanded Food Ware Ordinance.

10. **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:

- Briefing from the Fire Department / How can the EQC help with preparedness?
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- PG&E Emergency Power Shutoffs
- Collaboration with the Urban Forest Committee
- EQC Collaboration with Young People in El Cerrito
- Tool/Toy Lending Library
- City Support for Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763)
- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- Community Member Suggestions (e.g. Meatless Green Mondays, Leaf Blowers)
- Real Property Transfer Tax Rebates for Energy Efficiency – Education
- EQC Skills/Resource List

Solari recommended that the Committee have a focused meeting or training on equity and environmental justice. Committee members discussed how to partner with the Rialto theater, even during the pandemic.

11. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.



Neil Tsutsui, 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 **October 13, 2020** as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.



Will Provost, Staff Liaison