



Staff Liaison
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MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Environmental Quality Committee

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Goudey called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL** – Chair Howdy Goudey; Vice-Chair Rose Vekony; Members Buddy Akacić, Pamela Austin, Simrun Dhoot, Mark Miner, Evelyn Mitchell, Sean O’Connor, Paloma Pavel (arrived during Item 7), Sheila Tarbet
Absent: Fred Bialy **Also Present:** Christina Leard, Staff Liaison

2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no comments from members of the public.

3. **COUNCIL/STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

Staff Liaison Christina Leard informed the EQC that:

- Recycling and Garbage cart color switch is coming this summer (trash will be black and recycling will be blue)
- Budget Town Hall will be taking place on Saturday, April 22, 10am-2pm in City Council Chambers
- California Fish Grill is now open in the EC Plaza; Grand opening was April 5.

4. **ENVIRONMENTAL ART**

Members Mitchell and Akacić presented recycled art created by member Akacić titled “Mother Earth.”

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Consider a motion adopting the minutes of the EQC meeting March 14, 2023.

Move/Second: Members O’Connor/Mitchell **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the Minutes of the March 14, 2023 EQC meeting. **Ayes:** Unanimous of members present **Noes:** None **Absent:** Pavel

6. **COLLABORATION WITH THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE**

Urban Forest Committee Member Robin Mitchell gave updates from the Urban Forest Committee, including information on an upcoming Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Blitz taking place on May 12, 13, and 14.

7. **ELECTIONS FOR CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Nominate and elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for an annual term beginning April 2023.

Move/Second: Members Akacić/Tarbet **Action:** Passed a motion to appoint member Goudey as EQC Chair for an annual term beginning April 2023. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None **Abstain:** Goudey

Move/Second: Members O’Connor/Vekony **Action:** Passed a motion to appoint member Dhoot as EQC Vice-Chair for an annual term beginning April 2023 **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None

8. EQC BUDGET AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff and Committee members provided updates on recent events the EQC has supported and discussed plans for future events in 2023, including:

- Green Team 2023 Cleanups / Broom Pulls:
 - Mar. 26, Sunday, Hillside Natural Area broom pull (debrief)
 - Apr. 8, Saturday, Motorcycle Hill broom pull (debrief)
 - Apr. 15, Saturday, Earth Day cleanup Northern Gateways cleanup
 - Add a broom pull for May or June
 - Apr. 15, Saturday, Earth Day work party, PG&E site on Moeser ROW
 - June 10, Saturday, Northern Gateways Park cleanup
 - Aug. 13, Sunday, Creekside Park cleanup
 - Sept. 16, Saturday, Coastal Cleanup Day, Baxter Creek Park cleanup
 - Oct. 22, Sunday, Northern Gateways cleanup
 - Dec. 3, Sunday, Baxter Creek Park cleanup (with regular Baxter volunteers)
- Earth Day, Saturday, April 15, 2023

Move/Second: Members Miner/Goudey **Action:** Passed a motion for the EQC to co-sponsor movie screening of 2040 proposed by Member Tarbet in honor of Earth Day. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None
- Hillside Festival, May 6 and 7, 2023
 - **Reminder:** Trekkers requesting volunteers
 - Move/Second:** Members Miner/Dhoot **Action:** Passed a motion for the EQC to contribute \$100 for “Peach Jar” outreach to 4 elementary schools in support of the Hillside Festival. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None
- Bike to Work Day, Thursday May 18
- East Bay Green Home Tour, Saturday May 20
 - Consider a motion for EQC co-sponsorship/Community Partnership
 - Move/Second:** Members Vekony/Goudey **Action:** Passed a motion for the EQC to be a Community Partner with the East Bay Green Home Tour. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None
- 4th of July Planning & promotion of water bottle refill station
 - Update on sponsorship funding
 - EQC sign on water bottle refill station

9. CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN (CAAP)

EQC Members heard brief updates, participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding development of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, including:

- Updates from Staff:
 - Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) meeting 4/25 at 7pm
 - Presentation from Cascadia at May 9 meeting (unless rescheduled)
 - Public Workshop #1: Saturday June 3, 10am in Council Chambers
- Discussion of CAAP ideas and research
 - Cascadia's [El Cerrito CAAP proposal](#)
 - Cascadia [CAAP for Albany](#)
 - [Oakland equitable CAP](#)

10. DISCUSS POTENTIAL RESHEDULING OF MAY MEETING

EQC Members participated in discussion and considered possible action items regarding potentially rescheduling the May 9 EQC meeting to Thursday May 4 or Thursday May 11 due to conflict with Special City Council Budget meeting.

Move/Second: Members O'Connor/Miner **Action:** Passed a motion to reschedule the May 9 EQC meeting to Thursday May 11. **Ayes:** Unanimous **Noes:** None

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Staff and Committee members made announcements and suggestions for future EQC agenda items including:

- MCE Clean Energy & California Public Utilities Commission Updates

- Environmental, Social, And Racial Framework - Link to the [JEDI Tool](#)
- Sustainable Transportation report from City Staff (June)
- Climate Adaptation, Severe Weather Events, and Emergency Preparedness
- Integrated Pest Management Report from City Staff
- EQC Collaboration with Young People in El Cerrito
- Tool/Toy Lending Library
- Urban Greening Plan Implementation
- Community Member Suggestions (e.g. Meatless Green Mondays)
- Open Space Preservation
- Mitigation of heat effects; Federal Inflation Reduction Act
- BAAQMD Presentation
- Update on Advisory Body member training
- Environmental Films Series

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

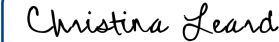
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Howdy Goudey, Chair

This is to clarify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Environmental Quality Committee meeting of April 11, 2023 as approved by the Environmental Quality Committee.

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Christina Leard, Staff Liaison