



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

MINUTES

November 5, 2003

Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Mary Kenney at 7:23 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mary Kenney, Laura Teksler, Dan Kocher, Kevin McCarthy, Rick Stevens, Frank Carney

Commissioners Absent: none

Staff present: Dianne Dryer, Environmental Programs Coordinator

Public present: none

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

B. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City Clerk is recruiting for an appointee to fill out the term vacated by Deirdre Digrande until August 2004. The Council will appoint the new Commissioner on November 18th. At the same Council meeting will be the presentation of the Heritage Tree Awards and the appeal of the Stanford Golf Course heritage tree permit approval.

The City Council will receive an update on new cost-cutting and streamlining procedures related to heritage tree permitting and review recommendations for amendments to the Heritage Tree Ordinance at its meeting on December 16th. At 1600 El Camino Real (at Encinal) a second heritage oak tree was permitted for removal as an emergency when it leaned over last week. The first heritage oak was permitted recently due to oak root fungus and severely declining health.

A display about what is recyclable and how to dispose of hazardous waste is on view at the main library for the month of November.

Rick Stevens reported on his meetings with Councilmember Kinney, the Creek Joint Powers Authority Director, Stanford Government Relations representatives and project managers to discuss how the flow of the Creek might be slowed down and erosion reduced downstream as part of the Golf Course re-alignment project.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1. Approval of Minutes of October 1, 2003:** Corrections of typographical errors: Section C-2 "imminent" ; Section C-3, 4th paragraph add "on the Sand Hill Road project" after "agreement"; Section C-3 last paragraph "be". Approved unanimously (Carney abstained). Minutes of August 6th were also approved unanimously (Rick Stevens abstained).

- 2. Selection of Heritage Tree Award Recipients:** Commissioners discussed whether City trees, in particular “street trees”, should be awarded. The City performs pruning of the trees, but otherwise the property owner provides other types of maintenance. It was decided to postpone decision on this policy until the start of next year’s award program. The street tree nominated this year was considered as a valid nomination. Commissioners agreed that in the future each Commissioner should try to nominate at least one tree for an award.

Winners selected for the 2003 awards were 130 and 120 Hanna Way, 381 Felton, and 5 Claremont.