



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

MINUTES

July 7, 2004

Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mary Kenney at 7:20 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mary Kenney, Bob Swezey, Laura Teksler, Rick Stevens, Kevin McCarthy, Frank Carney

Commissioners Absent: , Dan Kocher

Staff present: Dianne Dryer, Environmental Programs Coordinator
Juan Alvarez

Public present: none

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

B. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank Carney reported that the Trees for Menlo El Camino Real tree planting project is completed from Valparaiso to Oak Grove Avenue and from Middle Avenue to the Creek (except in the median). Funding is still needed to start and complete the section from Middle to Oak Grove. Sunset Publishing has contributed \$10,000 to the project. A plaque acknowledging donors over \$500 will be installed in front of Kepler's Bookstore this fall.

Dianne Dryer reported that the two heritage street trees at 648 Menlo Avenue were removed and three replacements planted. The application for removal of a heritage tree at 1 Carriage Court was withdrawn.

Dianne Dryer announced that two terms of Commissioners will expire in August. The current Commissioners may re-apply and other residents may apply until August 9, 2004.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Approval of Minutes of June 2, 2004:** Minutes approved (RS/FC, unanimous).

2. **Meeting Schedule:**

The Commission decided to hold the regular meeting on August 4, 2004 and to postpone the September meeting until September 8, 2004.

3. Heritage Tree Awards Selection:

The Commission approved awards for all three nominations: 490 Claremont Way (white birch trees), 1200 Arbor Road (redwood trees), and 917 Middle Ave (catalpa tree). Rick Stevens will present the awards at the City Council meeting on July 27, 2004.

4. Commission Goals and Priorities

Street Tree Management Plan – Dianne reported that the Plan from 1987 is being updated by West Coast Arborists (WCA), the consultant firm hired over a year ago to create the new street tree inventory on a database (which is now complete). They will recommend changes to some of the species for replacement street trees. When completed, the draft updated Plan will be reviewed by the Commission. Rick Stevens asked staff for a reportback on the scope of services for WCA and more detail about what the Commission review will entail. Will preventative maintenance methods be included?

Environmental Interest Survey – The idea of surveying residents was discussed. Rick Stevens offered to get assistance from Stanford students. Dianne Dryer suggested that Commissioners think about what the specific purpose of the survey would be and what the information gained from the survey might be used for within the constraints of the current City budget.

Bayfront Park Development – Dianne Dryer reported that a task force with Council members, staff and Parks Commissioners had been meeting to review a proposal for possible sports fields, golf course, pro-shop, restaurant, volleyball courts, and event pavilions. It is uncertain when the proposal will be brought to the Commission for review.