



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2005

Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dan Kocher at 6:35 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Doug Scott, Rick Stevens, Mary Kenney, Frank Carney, Dan Kocher, Bob Swezey, Sarah Granger

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff present: Dianne Dryer, Environmental Programs Coordinator
Juan Alvarez, City Arborist

Public present: None

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

B. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Commissioner Sarah Granger was introduced. Frank Carney announced that Trees for Menlo held their donor recognition ceremony at Menlo Center on April 30th with good turnout. They are looking for more donors for the southern section of El Camino Real tree planting. Mary Kenney reported on the Council Study Session on Safeway's rebuilding proposal, which includes removal of the heritage Chinese elms in front of the northern section of the building. Rick Stevens reported on the Arbor Day ceremony at La Entrada School where a native valley oak tree was planted with two classes of children, teachers and principal. All present were very enthusiastic. It was suggested that next year a handout about the importance of trees be distributed to the children. Sarah Granger announced that a used clothing store downtown called "The Shop" is collecting unwanted cellphones through the end of May, which will be recycled and benefit victims of domestic violence. Dianne Dryer reported key points from a special Council meeting, which was a training on the Brown Act. Bob Swezey proposed that Commission agendas and minutes, as well as staff reports to the extent possible, be emailed to Commissioners instead of copied and mailed, unless a Commissioner specifically requests a mailed paper packet.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1. Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2005:** Motioned (BS/DS); approved unanimously.

2. **Changes to Commission meeting dates in summer:** Commissioners agreed to cancel the July and August regular meetings and to schedule a special meeting on July 27th.
3. **Selection of Environmental Quality Awards:** Seven awards were chosen from 15 nominations. A news release will be distributed. The awards will be presented at the Council meeting on June 21st.