



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2009

Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mitch Slomiak (Chair), John Nash, Jeanne Durnford, Doug Scott, Kristin Kuntz-Dureseti, Dan Kocher, Megan Gutelius

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff present: Dianne Dryer, Environmental Programs Coordinator
Lisa Ekers, Engineering Services Director

Public present: None

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Introductionn of new Commissioner:** Megan Gutelius
2. **Approval of January 7, 2009 Meeting Minutes:** Unanimously approved (Gutelius abstained).
3. **Comments on the Draft Climate Action Plan:** Chairperson Slomiak facilitated the Commission's comments and questions. Numerous comments were recorded and will be included in the summary of public comment prepared for Council's consideration in late March. Motion (DS/JN) passed: "By unanimous proclamation, the EQC endorses the Draft CAP dated 1/27/09." The Commission passed another motion (DS/DK): "Commissioners Slomiak, Nash, and Kuntz-Dureseti will prepare a summary of Commission comments for presentation at the February City Council meeting as a Commission Report."

4. **Recommendations for Priority Projects FY2009-10:** The following projects were approved unanimously through a motion (MS/DK) for recommendation to the City Council:

Reforestation: Prune 730 street trees identified in the 2008 survey as needing corrective pruning to increase safety and extend their lives. Increase number of trees planted by 50% over 2008 total.

Climate and Energy Coordinator: Research and apply for grant funding to hire a Climate and Energy Coordinator to focus on planning, outreach and implementation of strategies in the Climate Action Plan. Responsibilities would include coordination of the San Mateo County Green Business Certification Program in Menlo Park.

Green @ Home Program: Continue funding from FY2008-09 program to assist residents in conserving energy, water, and other resources until 250 sites are completed (per current contract). Approve funding for an additional 250 "house calls" to be made in FY2009-10.

By unanimous proclamation the Commission endorsed the Draft Climate Action Plan. The Commission want to strongly urge the City Council to budget funds in FY 2009-10 in order to move forward expeditiously with near term actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

5. **El Camino Real /Downtown Specific Plan Update:** No report.

6. **Commission Report to City Council:** addressed under Item 3.

C. Announcements and Reports

Jeanne Durnford reported on the SBWMA Briefing about the financing of the Shoreway Recycling Center improvements. The SBWMA website www.rethinkwaste.org has complete information.

Mitch Slomiak spoke about a letter received from John Kadvany suggesting there be a 2 for 1 replacement policy when heritage trees are removed. Includes establishment for a City Tree Fund that could receive payments if there is no space at the property for the replacement(s).

Mayor Robinson will visit the Commission at the March 4th meeting.