



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2009

Burgess Recreation Center
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:36 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
Starla Jerome-Robinson, Assistant City Manager
Margaret Roberts, City Clerk

Public present: Mayor Heyward Robinson

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Commission Survey** – City Clerk Margaret Roberts collected the surveys from the Commissioners. Results from all commissions will be sent out.
2. **Mayor Robinson Presentation** – The Mayor spoke about the need for alignment of efforts by the Council, Commissions, staff and community, as well as improvements in communication. He outlined Council's goals, including a vibrant economy supporting a sustainable budget, planning and visioning (including environmental stewardship), and collaborating on regional solutions to problems. Additional resources will be needed to support core and other services, and with the economy so uncertain, the City will only be able to take on a few new projects. The Mayor suggested that an ad-hoc task force from the Commission work with staff on the Climate Action Plan and that the Commission help with the development of a long-term reforestation management plan. They could also help with educating residents about the need for these projects.
3. **Minutes for Meeting on February 4, 2009** - Correction to add Commissioner John Nash's resignation announcement. Approved unanimously as amended.
4. **Draft Climate Action Plan Update** – Dianne Dryer reported that a lot of comments have been received on the Draft and that she has met with the Transportation and Planning Commissions to get feedback. There is still a lot of work to do on the

document. Council will give direction to staff after reviewing the comments at their April 21st meeting.

5. **Reforestation Update** – Dianne reported that removal and replacement of 49 street trees has been approved by adjacent property owners, out of 114 proposed as high priority for removal. Staff is spending a lot of time administering the program, primarily answering questions from the public. This year's program should be completed by early April.
6. **El Camino Real/Downtown Specific Plan Update** – None.
7. **Commission Report to City Council** - Council praised the Commission's report on the Climate Action Plan presented at their meeting on February 24th.

C. Announcements and Reports

Commissioners and staff expressed appreciation for John Nash's contributions to the Commission and wished him well in his new role as university professor in Iowa.

Kristin Kuntz-Dureseti is coordinating the Arbor Day tree planting with Hillview School.

Dianne Dryer passed out booklets entitled "Climate Prosperity – A Greenprint for Silicon Valley", produced by Joint Venture Silicon Valley Network.