



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION MEETING ACTION MINUTES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Recreation Center- Cypress Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

Commissioners Present: Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti (Chair), Kathy Schrenk (Vice Chair), Douglas Scott, Christina Smolke, Mitch Slomiak, Daniel Kocher.

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: Rebecca Fotu, Environmental Programs Manager

Public Present:

A. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

B. BUSINESS ITEMS:

B.1. Approve June Action Minutes

Action: June minutes as presented. (m/s: Kocher/Slomiak-unanimously approved)

B.2. Consider Cancelling One Summer Meeting

Action: Cancel August meeting. (m/s: Slomiak/Scott-unanimously approved)

B.3 Proposed Energy Efficiency Ordinance to be reviewed by City Council in July Discuss and consider reporting/making recommendation to City Council regarding Phase I of Sustainable Building Policies.

Action: A member of the EQC (if available) will speak on behalf of the EQC in support of Menlo Park's amended California Green Building Standards Code at the next City Council meeting addressing the issue. The EQC Chair will also send Council a memorandum with the following text:

On July 6 2011, the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) unanimously voted to recommend support of staff's modifications to Menlo Park's amended California Green Building Standards Code. The EQC is convinced that adoption of this amendment is crucial to building long term communitywide capital improvements that are energy efficient. The EQC does not anticipate that the modifications will

negatively impact the community's intended energy conservation benefits from the original ordinance.

The EQC has previously corresponded unanimous support of this amendment to California Green Building Standards Code with the following letter sent to Council in May:

The EQC supports staff's recommendation to adopt Phase 1 standards currently under discussion that enable Menlo Park to exceed the state minimum energy efficiency building requirements by 15%.

We have consistently advocated that Menlo Park take a leadership role in addressing energy efficiency and climate change. The City's greatest leverage in doing so is in building and land use standards.

This measure will move Menlo Park in the right direction toward leadership in green building standards and addressing climate change.

We observed support within the community for such standards during the Menlo Gateway review process, which many believe was unduly complicated by insufficient City standards related to energy efficiency and CO2 emissions.

The EQC has also formed a Sustainable Building Subcommittee to become more knowledgeable about sustainable building practices to provide Council with valuable feedback for Phase II of Menlo Park's Sustainable Building program, which may include additional standards beyond the scope of this current amendment that would be both environmentally beneficial and feasible.

(m/s: Slomiak/Kuntz-Duriseti-unanimously approved)

B.3. Climate Action Plan Assessment Report

Action: Authorize Mitch Slomiak to speak on behalf of the EQC at the Council meeting in support of the Climate Action Plan Assessment Report. Authorize Commissioner Slomiak to submit a letter of support for the Assessment Report to Council, and also emphasize the importance of setting a communitywide greenhouse gas reduction target.

(m/s: Slomiak/Scott-unanimously approved)

B.4. Development of a Community Environmental Sustainability Policy

Action: None. Table to next meeting. (Chair Decision)

MEETING ADJOURNED APPROXIMATELY 8:32 PM.

Meeting minutes prepared by Rebecca Fotu, Environmental Programs Manager and Staff Liaison to the EQC.