



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting
February 27, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.
City Administration Building – Council Conference Room
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park

The meeting was called to order by Mitch Slomiak at 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Chris DeCardy, Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti, Adina Levin, Scott Marshall, Mitchel Slomiak (Chair)

Absent: Allan Bedwell, Christina Smolke (Vice Chair)

A. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

B. REGULAR BUSINESS

B1. Approve January 9, 2013 Minutes ([Attachment](#))

ACTION: Motion and second (Levin/Marshall) to approve January 9, 2013 minutes passes (4-0-3), (Abstain: Kuntz-Duriseti, Absent: Allan Bedwell, Christina Smolke).

B2. Issue a Determination on a Heritage Tree Appeal at 715 Cambridge Avenue ([Attachment](#))

Public Comment

- Maryam Taba, appellant and property owner of 715 Cambridge Avenue stated the following:
 - She supports the appeal to remove the tree.
 - She has safety concerns over the tree because the tree is too large for her lot, the tree is not healthy, has visible symptoms of bark beetle and Pitch Canker, and poses a liability to her neighbors should the tree experience limb failure.
 - Pruning and cabling the tree will not be effective.
- Fatemeh Ziaei, appellant and property owner of 715 Cambridge Avenue stated the following:
 - She supports the appeal to remove the tree.
 - She is concerned over the safety of her neighbors; the tree is hazardous.
 - Pruning effectiveness as an alternative is unknown on whether it will help the tree.
 - Although she is limited financially she is willing to contribute to the expenses of having the tree removed.

- Kurosh Dalili, David Miller, Leslie Louie, Lyle Hurst, Pegah Sarram, Jerry L. Jones, and Erna Jones, neighbors to the appellant, all spoke in support of the appeal to remove the tree due to the risk of the tree's limbs falling on their property.

ACTION: Motion and Second (Slomiak/DeCardy) to uphold the appeal for the Monterey Pine based on consideration No. 1 of the Heritage Tree Ordinance due to the tree's potential for limb failure and being in close proximity to structures on neighboring properties passes (4-1-2), (Noes: Levin, Absent: Allan Bedwell, Christina Smolke).

B3. Receive Informational Quarterly Arborist Report and Discuss Changing Reporting Timeframe

ACTION: Motion and Second (Slomiak/Marshall) to change the Arborist Report reporting timeframe from quarterly reporting to bi-annual reporting, which would be every March and September passes (5-0-2), (Absent: Allan Bedwell, Christina Smolke).

B4. Review Environmental Quality Award Nominations and Select Winners
[\(Attachment\)](#)

ACTION: Motion and Second (Kuntz-Duriseti/Slomiak) to award all nominees, change the award category for Carolyn Dorsch from "Climate Action" to "Education," and have Commissioner Marshall present the awards at an upcoming Council meeting (with Commissioner Kuntz-Duriseti as an alternate presenter) passes (5-0-2), (Absent: Allan Bedwell, Christina Smolke).

B5. Discuss Climate Action Plan Status and Update Report and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target Presentation for Upcoming Council Meeting [\(Staff Attachment\)](#)
[\(Chair Presentation Attachment\)](#)

ACTION: Motion and Second (Slomiak/Kuntz-Duriseti) to accept the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target Presentation with the addition of slide number nine before presenting it to Council passes (5-0-2), (Absent: Allan Bedwell, Christina Smolke).

B6. Discuss Environmental Quality Commission Quarterly Report to City Council
By consensus the Commission approved the following topics as discussed by Commissioner Slomiak:

- EQC Meeting Date Change
- Update on Climate Action Plan Report
- Environmental Quality Awards Status
- Future improvements to the Heritage Tree Appeal Process and Heritage Tree Ordinance for next year's CIP

C. COMMISSION REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following reports and announcements were received:

C1. Staff Update on Environmental Policies to be Considered by City Council

C2. Commission Subcommittee Reports and Announcements

C3. Discuss Future Agenda Items

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Vanessa Marcadejas, Environmental Programs Specialist