



## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 6:30 PM  
City Administration Building  
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025

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The meeting was called to order by EQC Chair Scott Marshall at 6:43pm

### ROLL CALL:

Present: Allan Bedwell (Vice Chair), Chris DeCardy, Scott Marshall (Chair), Deborah Martin, Mitchel Slomiak, Christina Smolke

Absent: Kristin Kuntz-Duriseti

### A. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Lewis commented on the Great Spirit Path Sculptures restoration project at Bedwell Bayfront Park, which has a tentative completion date of spring 2015 ([Handout](#))

### B. REGULAR BUSINESS

- B1.** Consider a Recommendation on a Request to Remove One Valley Oak Heritage Tree at 1025 San Mateo Drive ([Attachment](#))

#### Public Comment

Hossein Jalali, owner of the property where the Valley Oak tree is located, briefed the Commission on the condition of the tree and his support for the removal. Since the tree poses a hazard and may break at any time, Mr. Jalali does not want to be liable for damage.

Commissioner Bedwell arrives at 7:00pm

Sally Cole, appellant and property owner of 1235 Santa Cruz, stated that her backyard faces the Valley Oak and based on her informal assessment of the tree she concluded that the tree is free from structural defects and should not be removed.

Betsy Nash, neighbor of Sally Cole, advocated for leaving in as many trees as possible. Ms. Nash stated that the Valley Oak is aesthetically pleasing and if the Oak does need to be removed than it should be replaced with an appropriate tree.

**ACTION:** Motion and Second (DeCardy/Martin) to deny the appeal based on the Heritage Tree criteria as stated in the arborist report, passes (5-1-1), (Absent: Kuntz-Duriseti, Noes: Bedwell).

- B2.** Appoint Environmental Quality Commission Representative to the Peninsula SunShare's Evaluation Committee ([Attachment](#))

**ACTION:** Motion and Second (Marshall/Martin) that the EQC not elect a representative to the Peninsula SunShare's Evaluation Committee at this time (4-0-3), (Absent: Kuntz Duriseti, Smolke; Abstain: Slomiak)

Commissioner Smolke leaves at 8:05 pm

- B3.** Discuss Joint City Council Quarterly Update Meeting and Select Council Meeting Date to Deliver Update

Staff provided the commission with the logistics of the Joint City Council Commission meeting.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Slomiak/Martin) to confirm the EQC Quarterly Update/Joint City Council Commission meeting for March 24<sup>th</sup> with Commissioners Slomiak, Bedwell, Marshall, and Martin to be present, passes (5-0-2) (Absent: Kuntz-Duriseti, Smolke)

- B4.** Debrief on City Council Meeting Discussion on Potential CIP Projects

**ACTION:** No formal action was taken. City Council plans to review the CIP on April 14, 2015.

- B5.** Receive Update from General Plan Advisory Subcommittee

**ACTION:** No action was taken on this item. Commissioner Slomiak provided an update to the Commission on behalf of the GPAC subcommittee. The Commission would like the item reagendaized at the next commission meeting.

- B6.** Discuss and Consider Potential Proclamations to the City Council for Exemplary Environmental Efforts in the Community

**ACTION:** No action was taken on this item. The Commission would like to reagendaize this item for next meeting.

- B7.** Informational Presentation on World Council on City Data (WCCD) regarding ISO 37120: Sustainable Development of Communities: Indicators for City Services and Quality of Life ([Handout](#))

**ACTION:** No action was taken on this item. Commissioner Martin provided a presentation to the Commission. The Commission would like to reagendaize this item for a future meeting.

- B8.** Receive Quarterly Update on City Recycling Rates

**ACTION:** No action was taken on this item. Staff shared a presentation on the City recycling rates for the October to December 2014 period. The trend shows significantly higher

recycling than the prior quarter and is above state mandated requirements of 50% waste diversion.

**B9.** Approve January 28, 2014 Minutes ([Attachment](#))

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Slomiak/Bedwell) to approve January 28, 2015 minutes passes (4-0-3) (Absent: Kuntz-Duriset, Smolke; Abstain: DeCardy)

### **C. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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 9:46pm.

Meeting minutes taken by Chris DeCardy, Environmental Quality Commissioner

Meeting minutes prepared by Sheena Ignacio, Environmental Programs Specialist

Minutes accepted at the meeting of March 25, 2015

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