

Environmental Quality Commission



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 7/26/2017
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Administration Building
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Chair London called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Allan Bedwell, Chris DeCardy, Chair Janelle London, Vice Chair Deb Martin, Christina Smolke
Absent: Joyce Dickerson, Scott Marshall
Staff: Clay Curtin, Assistant to the City Manager/Interim Sustainability Manager
Jason Ino, Sustainability Assistant

C. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

D. Regular Business

D1. Make a determination on an appeal for one Atlas cedar heritage tree at 1810 Bay Laurel Drive

City Arborist Christian Bonner provided a brief overview of his evaluation of the tree and his reasons for denying the removal permit.

Property owner, Ashley Eikenberry, stated that she regularly prunes the tree, but fallen limbs have caused property damage. She also stated that the tree is in a high traffic area and that her neighbors have expressed safety concerns.

ACTION: Motion and second (London/Bedwell) to deny the appeal and uphold staff's recommendation to retain the tree based on the heritage tree criteria stated in the staff report passes (4-1-2; Martin dissents; Dickerson and Marshall absent).

D2. Review and make a recommendation on heritage tree removal permits for the Stanford University Middle Plaza at 500 El Camino Real project (300-550 El Camino Real)

Commissioner Smolke recused herself from the meeting for this item and left the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Associate Planner Corinna Sandmeier provided a report to the commission.

John Donahoe, representing the project sponsor, provided a presentation to the commission.

ACTION: Motion and second (Bedwell/DeCardy) recommend support for the city arborist's approval of the requested 18 heritage tree removals in recognition of factors No. 1 and No. 4 (tree

condition/health and long-term species value), 1 heritage tree transplantation and 40 heritage tree replacements (exceeding the the 2:1 ratio required for projects of this size) passes unanimously (4-0-3; Dickerson, Marshall and Smolke absent).

- D3. Nominate a commissioner to serve on the Transportation Master Plan Oversight and Outreach Committee

Clay Curtin provided a report to the commission.

Commissioner DeCardy expressed interest in the position. Commissioner Bedwell expressed interest being an alternate.

ACTION: Motion and second (Bedwell/London) to nominate DeCardy to serve on the Transportation Master Plan Oversight and Outreach Committee, with Commissioner Bedwell as an alternate, passes (4-0-3; Dickerson, Marshall and Smolke absent).

- D4. Approve the June 21, 2017, Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes

ACTION: Motion and second (Bedwell/DeCardy) to approve the June 21, 2017, meeting minutes passes unanimously (4-0-3; Dickerson, Marshall and Smolke absent).

E. Reports and Announcements

- E1. Staff updates

Clay Curtin referenced the Sustainability Manager's Report attached to the agenda.

F. Adjournment

Chair London adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jason Ino