

Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 11/15/2017
Time: 6:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Chair London called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Allan Bedwell, Joyce Dickerson, Chair Janelle London, Scott Marshall, Christina Smolke
Absent: Chris DeCardy, Vice Chair Deb Martin
Staff: Rebecca Lucky and Jason Ino

C. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

D. Regular Business

D1. Make a determination on an appeal for one Southern magnolia tree at 1730 Stanford Avenue.

City Arborist Christian Bonner made a presentation (Attachment).

Appellants, Stephanie Elkins and Brad Bently spoke against the removal permit.

- Bess Wiersema, property owner's architect, spoke in support of the removal permit.
- Irving Tamura, property owner's landscape designer, spoke in support of the removal permit.
- Sally Johnson, property owner, spoke in support of the removal permit.
- William Roth spoke about another tree on the property

ACTION: Motion and second (Bedwell/Dickerson) to deny the appeal and uphold staff decision to grant removal of the heritage tree, failed (2-2-1-2; Smolke and Marshall dissented, London abstained, DeCardy and Martin absent). No subsequent motion was made, therefore the City Arborist's original determination to approve the removal permit stands.

D2. Discussion and recommendation to City Council on the proposed citywide electric vehicle charging station policy.

Chair London provided a report from the community meeting in October.

ACTION: Motion and second (Bedwell/Dickerson) authorizing the Chair to finalize and email a letter to the City Council's Electric Vehicle Charging Station subcommittee, and designate Bedwell (primary) and Dickerson (alternate) to speak on behalf of the Environmental Quality Commission at City Council and Planning Commission on this topic, passed (5-0-2; DeCardy and Martin absent).

Commissioner Marshall left the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

- D3. Report from the Climate Action Plan Subcommittee on the Strategic Five Year Climate Action Plan, and proposed initiatives and goals beyond 2020.

Chair London provided the report.

No action taken.

E. Reports and Announcements

- E1. Commissioner reports

No commissioner reports were given.

- E2. Staff updates and announcements

Sustainability Manager Rebecca Lucky provided a verbal report on staff recruitments, City Council's approval of garbage rate increases and development of a Sustainability Division work plan.

- E3. Future agenda items

No future agenda items were discussed.

F. Adjournment

Chair London adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jason Ino.