

CITY OF CUPERTINO SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
Environmental Education Center 22221 McClellan Road

Thursday February 16, 2017 4:00 PM

**MINUTES**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting convened at 4:07 pm

Commissioners Present: Meera Ramanathan, Angela Chen, Anna Weber,  
and Vignesh Swaminathan (arrived @ 4:09)

Commissioner Absent: Gary Latshaw

Staff: Misty Mersich, Sustainability Manager; Cheri Donnelly, Environmental Programs  
Manager; Lauren Dickinson, Environmental Outreach Coordinator

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Draft minutes of January 19, 2017 meeting approved with minor edit to change the year  
to 2017. Motion by Commissioner Chen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Weber. Motion passes 3-  
0-2 with Latshaw and Swaminathan absent.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Subject: Earth Day & Arbor Day Update and Planning**

Lauren Dickinson gave an update on the plans for Earth Day & Arbor Day celebration  
held at the Civic Center on Saturday April 22, 2017. So far, 54 partners have registered  
to table and 123 volunteers have signed up for the day. Registration for partners closes  
on March 24th. This year the committee decided to recruit lead volunteers to help run  
the event. There are 5 positions; Lead Volunteer Coordinator, Registration Coordinator,  
Community Bike Ride Assistant, Entertainment Coordinator, and Zero Waste Event  
Specialist. Recruitment has been sent to De Anza College & SJSU contacts, shared with  
high schools career centers, and posted on City's website. Fun new activities this year  
include; Pedal 4 the Planet Bike Ride; Yoga Class; Bike valet service by SVBC;  
Neighborhood Tree Walk led by City arborists; Art & Innovation Exhibit – recycled art  
and inventions by K-12 students. There is interest in showing films in community hall  
as an ECO-film Fest. Currently thinking about showing the Story of Stuff series, which

are about 25 minutes each. Staff did look into showing *The Lorax*, but copyright costs \$135 each film from Swank Motion Pictures, which is high considering this is just a small side show of the entire event. The Commissioners talked about the possibility of showing *Before the Flood*, because it is also free. Commissioners also discussed the possibility of having a Sustainability table at the event, staffed by Commissioners. Ideas for the table: update on GHG emissions; An easel which people can write an answer to the question “ What are your sustainability priorities?”; a suggestion box; and showcase GreenBiz’ s in Cupertino. Each commissioner could staff the table for about one hour. This item will be discussed in March to confirm the details.

## **2. Subject: Earth Day Update and Planning**

Cheri Donnelly, Environmental Program Manager, passed out a draft Zero Waste policy. This policy is based off a similar policy adopted by the City of Sunnyvale. Commissioners are encouraged to provide any comments or suggestions to Cheri on any improvements they would like to see. Commissioners asked Cheri to give them a list of ideas for zero waste projects the division is currently working on and would like to work on, including the challenges.

## **STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **3. Subject: Silicon Valley Clean Energy**

Misty Mersich gave a power point presentation on Silicon Valley Clean Energy, starting service April 2017.

### **4. Subject: Report out from Speaker Series committee**

Commissioners Chen reported that she and Commissioner Latshaw met with the Library commission. They are working on a Hackathon. They are interested in partnering with the Sustainability commission. They would need access to city data. Commissioner Chen expressed interest in having the kids develop a video on the Climate Action Plan. The Library commission also sponsors a 6 week camp called S4. The kids develop a product, and they have different speakers talk to them. There is also interest in partnering with the Master Gardeners, for a speaker. Commissioner Chen also met a Library commissioner who works at NASA, and can help us with speakers. Commissioners discussed the possibility of holding the speaker series focused on the schools or DeAnza.

### **5. Commission Reports**

Commissioner Ramanathan reported that she and Commissioner Latshaw attended Stanford Energy Speaker series.

Commissioner Weber and Ramanathan reported that they have an interest in outreaching to the schools on waste reduction. They will be meeting with Misty and Cheri to discuss their ideas.

#### **6. Staff Updates**

Staff is working on many projects. This includes a GHG inventory update, releasing an RFQ for Community Based Social Marketing campaign focused on energy and water. Staff is also working on collecting data to prepare a progress report on the Climate Action Plan, which is slated to be completed by the end of the April. PACE passed the City Council on February 7<sup>th</sup>, and so staff is working on updating a webpage.

**ADJOURNMENT- 6:00pm.**