

CITY OF CUPERTINO SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
Environmental Education Center 22221 McClellan Road

Thursday October 19, 2017 4:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

The meeting convened at 4:01 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Angela Chen, Anna Weber, Gary Latshaw, Meera Ramanathan  
(arrived at 4:20 p.m.)

Commissioners Absent: Vignesh Swaminathan

Staff: Gilee Corral, Sustainability Program Coordinator; Cheri Donnelly, Environmental  
Programs Manager

Guests: None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. **Action Item:** Draft minutes of September 21, 2017 meeting approved. Motion by Commissioner Chen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Latshaw. Motion passes 3-0-2 with Commissioners Ramanathan and Swaminathan absent.

**POSTPONEMENTS**

None.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2. **Subject: Revisit FY2017/18 Work Plan**

The Commission reviewed the Work Plan, added new items, and discussed several items, including:

- Recology Amendment & Zero Waste Policy, scheduled for Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting discussion. Cheri Donnelly provided background on this upcoming work plan item and the Commission discussed the economics of the China ban on recyclables and how this could affect the waste market locally.
- Sunnyvale SMaRT Station Tour, to be scheduled. Gilee Corral will confirm with Commissioner Swaminathan his availability and schedule a date with the SMaRT Station for this tour. The tour will be noticed as an additional Special Meeting of the Sustainability Commission, open to the public.
- Commissioner Chen will be travelling and unable to attend the Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting; Commissioner Ramanathan will act as Chair for this meeting.

Adjustments made to the Work Plan:

- November 16: Add: Update on Recology Amendment & Zero Waste Discussion with Environmental Services.
- December 21: Add: Discussion on Student Green Grant Guidelines and Discuss and Adjust Commission Budget.
- January 18: Add: Commissioners report back on findings on opportunities for collaborations with other Commissions (moved from Dec. 21 meeting); Presentation on Community Based Social Marketing Project progress with Sustainability Staff; Discuss and decide on Cherry Blossom Festival tabling opportunity (vendor registration opens Jan. 19). Remove: Environmental Jeopardy Subcommittee to bring back ideas.
- February 15: Add: Review and approve revised questions for Environmental Jeopardy Game.

**Action Item:** A motion was made by Commissioner Weber to approve the revised Sustainability Commission FY2017-18 Work Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Latshaw and passed 4-0-1 with Commissioner Swaminathan absent.

### **3. Subject: Subcommittee reports**

#### Sustainable Schools Subcommittee report:

Commissioner Ramanathan reported on an issue with one of the vendors that was approached by the Subcommittee for a quote for waste audit services. This vendor has approached other City staff independently of the Subcommittee and expressed interest

in reaching out directly to the School District. The Subcommittee presented the waste audit quotes to the School District as options, and not recommendations of one vendor over another. Commissioner Ramanathan brought this up as a concern and requested guidance or language to use in situations like this with vendors; Gilee will look into this. Commissioner Chen reported that the Subcommittee is drafting guidelines for a green grants program and will bring ideas back to the Commission in the spring.

Building Reach Codes Subcommittee report: No update at present.

Sustainability Speakers Series Subcommittee report:

Commissioners Chen and Latshaw provided an update on efforts to secure speakers, and the Commission discussed possible topics, including electric cars, the Cradle to Cradle book, Bea Johnson on Zero Waste Homes, and electrification and heat pump water heaters. Commissioner Latshaw will reach out to a contact at the NASA Ames Center for the Cradle to Cradle idea and connect with his contacts in the Sunnyvale Sustainability Commission on their lessons learned from their successful speaker series.

The Subcommittee is working with the School District to flesh out the student essay contest guidelines. The Commission briefly discussed the possibility of converting the essay contest to a poster contest.

## **STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

Commission Reports: None.

Staff Updates: Staff gave Commissioners Silicon Valley Clean Energy window clings.

Staff reported on several initiatives, meetings, and events, including:

- Cupertino employee events: Wellness Fair and Electric Vehicles Brown Bag
- Awards and recognitions: Beacon Awards accepted by the Mayor and City Manager at the League of California Cities Conference in September; SolSmart Award recognition scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the ICMA Conference
- Staff are applying for the Bloomberg Mayor's Challenge for a project related to a sustainable community currency and alternative commuting
- Earth Day Festival scheduled for April 21, 2018

**ADJOURNMENT- 6:01 p.m.**