

CITY OF CUPERTINO SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
Environmental Education Center 22221 McClellan Road

Thursday March 15, 2018 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Gary Latshaw, Anna Weber, Meera Ramanathan, Vignesh Swaminathan, Angela Chen (arrived @ 4:20pm)

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff: Misty Mersich, Sustainability Manager; Cheri Donnelly, Environmental Programs Manager

Members of Public: James Tuleya

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action Item: Draft minutes of February 15, 2018 meeting reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Latshaw and 2nd by Commissioner Weber. Motion passed 3-1-1, with Commissioner Chen absent and Commissioner Swaminathan abstaining.

POSTPONEMENTS

None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

James Tuleya representing Home Energy Analysis let the Commissioners know about the HomeIntel program available to Cupertino residents and any customer in PG&E territory. Letters were sent to high energy users throughout the city to encourage them to sign up and get help in reducing energy use.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Subject: CREST Awards - Selection of Sustainability Champion of the Year

Commissioners discussed the applications of the two nominees and whether it made sense to have two separate categories for individuals vs. organizations next year.

Action Item: Motion to select Kristin Jensen Sullivan as the 2018 Sustainability Champion of the Year was made by Commissioner Weber, 2nd by Commissioner Swaminathan. Motion passed 4-0-1, with Commissioner Chen absent.

2. Subject: Sustainability Grants for Students

Commissioners were delighted to see so many applicants for the grant program from many worthy projects. The Commissioners discussed keeping this program going and offering it again in the fall. The original budget for this program would allow two awardees; however, the Commissioners decided to increase their internal budget to allow for one additional winner, for a total of three winners.

The awardees are:

1. John F. Kennedy Middle School: Green Commuters Project
2. DeVargas Elementary: Kindergarten Garden Project
3. Rolling Hills 4-H Club: Native Plant Education Project

Two of the applications were not awarded a grant but were referred to City staff to help implement. This included a request to install waste bins at Wilson Park and to procure Brute recycling bins for Eaton Elementary.

Action Item: Motion to select John F. Kennedy Middle School: Green Commuters Project; DeVargas Elementary: Kindergarten Garden Project; and Rolling Hills 4-H Club: Native Plant Education Project as the 2018 Student Sustainability Grant award winners was made by Commissioner Ramanathan, 2nd by Commissioner Weber. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Subject: Budget/Work plan

Commissioners reviewed and discussed the work plan and budget.

Commissioners will send Misty their availability for Earth Day tabling. No action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commission Reports:

Commissioner Chen attended the Urban Forestry Workshop. Commissioners Chen and Latshaw talked with the Library Commission about an essay contest, and possibility of partnering with them for their S4 program. They will send out information on the event.

Staff Updates:

- City is having Volunteer Fair on May 5th. Commissioners can volunteer to staff the Commissioners table; if interested, let Misty know.
- SVCE Rates Update: PG&E raised their rates 10%; SVCE rates will be 6% below PG&E rates - cheaper and cleaner!
- Earth Day is April 21st. Commissioners were asked to email Misty with their availability for the Sustainability Division/Commissioners table.
- The HomeIntel program is up and running. Mailers went out to the high energy users in the community and marketing has begun.
- Sustainability Speaker Series- April 12th- Rose Grimes from NASA will speak @ Community Hall. Program starts @ 6:30pm.

ADJOURNMENT- 6:15 p.m.