

CITY OF CUPERTINO SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Environmental Education Center 22221 McClellan Road

Thursday March 21, 2019 4:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Anna Weber, Gary Latshaw, Angela Chen, Vignesh Swaminathan (arrived @ 4:05), Meera Ramanathan (arrived @ 4:10)

Staff: Misty Mersich, Sustainability Manager, Brian Babcock, Public Information Officer

Guests: Emily Fan, Hermione Ma, Carissa Chou, Sanjeev Gottipati, Molly Culton, Sierra Club, Bruce Karney, Silicon Valley Climate Reality Project,

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Action Item:** Draft minutes of February 21, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Chen and 2nd by Commissioner Latshaw. Motion passed 3-0 with Commissioners Swaminathan and Ramanathan absent.

**POSTPONEMENTS**

None.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Bruce Karney from Silicon Valley Climate Reality Project passed out a handout, which compared Santa Clara cities on frequency of GHG inventory reports. He would like Cupertino to join other cities in committing to conduct a GHG inventory every year.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

Sanjeev Gottipati, student at Monte Vista High School presented his air pollution monitoring model and related research. He answered questions from Commissioners. Commissioners recommended that Sanjeev meet with Public Works Director and Councilmember Rod Sinks and invite him to the Earth Day event.

Chair Weber reordered the agenized items as follows: Item #5 moved up to be after agenda Item #3.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **2. Subject: Update on Buy Clean and Consider Resolution Language**

Misty passed out a handout with an update on the Buy Clean effort at the State of California. Misty explained that the state effort has been delayed a bit, and they are currently collecting EPP's from contractors for eligible materials, and will come up with standards and thresholds for carbon content of materials in 2021. The Buy Clean Act does not include concrete as an eligible material. There is also an effort related to carbon content of concrete that is being led by the County of Marin and Alameda County's Stop Waste, funded by a grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Staff is closing watching and participating in this effort as appropriate to determine if the work products could be scalable for adoption by the City of Cupertino. Molly Culton from the Sierra Club stated that she would like cities to pass a resolution in support or possibly to start requiring EPP's on Public Works contracts. There were also a few students in attendance in support. The Sustainability Commission discussed the Buy Clean effort and directed staff to give them quarterly updates on the State process, which is an item that will be included in the cities Work Program. Since the Commission and staff is already closely following this process, they felt that it was unnecessary for Council to pass a resolution at this time to just support an effort, they would like to bring something to Council when there is something to take action on.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **3. Subject: CREST Awards: Selection of Sustainability Champion of the Year**

This item was moved in up the agenda. Brian Babcock, PIO let the Commission know that there were two nominations for this award. Member's discussed the nominations and overall felt disappointment that more community members were not nominated. Commissioners had a discussion on ways to improve the outreach to the community and encourage more people to submit applications next year. Would like to see better applicants and marketing next year. Awards ceremony will be held May 30<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm in Community Hall. Voting for nominations went as follows:

Commissioner Swaminathan moved to nominate Grassroots Ecology, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Latshaw, Vote 2 in favor (Swaminathan, Latshaw), 3 opposed (Weber, Chen, Ramanathan). Motion Failed 2-3

Commissioner Chen moved to nominate DeAnza College, There was no 2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by any Commissioner. Motion Failed

Commissioner Swaminathan moved to nominate No Recipient, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Weber, Vote 2 in favor (Swaminathan, Weber), 3 opposed (Latshaw, Chen, and Ramanathan). Motion Failed 2-3

Commissioner Ramanathan moved to nominate both DeAnza College and Grassroots Ecology as Co-Recipients, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Chen, Vote 3 in favor (Chen, Ramanathan, and Latshaw), 2 opposed (Swaminathan, Weber). Motion Passed 3-2

Chair Weber requested that we move the Student Essay contest to the next item in the agenda. Motion made by Commissioner Weber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Latshaw, Motion passed 5-0

#### **4. Subject: Student Essay Contest: Selection of Awards**

Commissioners each discussed their top nominations and came to a consensus on the winners.

- Janani Karthik - Grade 6, Essay titled: "How You Can Stop Climate Change By Altering Your Eating Habits"
- Mela Lin – Grade 7, Essay Titled: "How Can We Change Our Habits to Lead to a More Sustainable Environment?"
- Iris Chou – Grade 8, Essay Titled: "Our Environment"

Motion made by Commissioner Chen, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Latshaw. Vote unanimous in favor.

#### **5. Subject: 2019/2020 Workplan**

Commissioners quickly reviewed the draft Work Program, and determined that Commissioners Latshaw and Swaminathan will give a presentation to Council sometime in June.

### **STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS**

#### **Staff updates:**

SCENE for the month of April will be Sustainability & Environmental themed.

Earth Day is April 13<sup>th</sup>- Commissioners will have a booth, and Misty will send out a schedule to staff it. We are also taking applications for a Lead Volunteers for the event, so if you know of anyone let staff know

Volunteer Fair is May 5<sup>th</sup>, there is a Commissioner table, co-staffed by all City Commissions. If you can take a staffing shift, please let Misty know.

Next meeting: No meeting in April. Next meeting May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT-** 6:36p.m.