

CITY OF CUPERTINO SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Environmental Education Center 22221 McClellan Road

Thursday August 15, 2019 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 4:01 p.m. Chair Weber called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff: Cheri Donnelley, Environmental Programs Manager; Alex Wykoff, Environmental Programs Specialist

Guests: Jill Bicknell

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of July 18, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Chen moved and Commissioner Swaminathan seconded to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Ramanathan and Latshaw absent.

POSTPONEMENTS – None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

Chair Weber moved and Commissioner Swaminathan seconded to reorder the agenda items as follows: Item #4 then Item #3 then Item #2 then agenda resumption at Item #5. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Ramanathan and Latshaw absent.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Subject: Update from Public Works staff on Household Hazardous Waste Program

Public Works staff Alex Wykoff updated the Commission on the status of household hazardous waste (HHW) disposal for city residents. Since collection at the door ended on December 31, 2018, and there are constraints with having drop-off sites and temporary events, Cupertino residents can dispose of their HHW through the county-wide Household Hazardous Waste Program (the City pays for this for its residents). Commissioners asked if this information was on the City website, and Wykoff said he would check and confirm. Commissioners also asked for clarification on what HHW is and what Recology picks up at the curb.

3. Subject: Presentation from City staff and consultant on Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) and the City's Municipal Regional Permit (MRP) requirement to adopt a long term GSI Plan

Jill Bicknell, EOA, Inc. consultant and Assistant Program Manager for Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program, gave a presentation on green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) and responded to

Commissioners's questions. Commissioners asked about pervious materials, how projects are reviewed for GSI opportunities, the maintenance and outreach needed for GSI, and GSI opportunities in Cupertino. Bicknell will forward her presentation to staff and Cheri Donnelley will send Gilee Corral (Commission Staff Liaison) the link to the appendixes in the Cupertino Green Stormwater Infrastructure Draft Plan.

OLD BUSINESS

2. Subject: Sustainability Speaker Series Subcommittee update and planning for Zero Waste event

Sustainability Speaker Series Subcommittee members Vice Chair Latshaw and Commissioner Chen met with staff to plan the logistics of the upcoming Bea Johnson/Zero Waste event. This event will take place at Community Hall on Monday, September 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. with doors opening at 6 p.m. There is a marketing plan which includes a flyer and outreach to the high schools. The activity focused on the zero waste concept is a table with information and items to give away. Reusable cups, utensils, and napkins will be used. Foods served will be along the line of finger foods (veggies, fruits). Johnson will be paid electronically and not with a paper check. Commissioner Swaminathan will introduce Bea Johnson. Donnelley will send Johnson's bio to the Commission. Commissioners discussed if Johnson could address how a zero waste lifestyle can co-exist with Marie Kondo's minimalist lifestyle. Donnelley mentioned that questions for Johnson could be sent in advance.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Subject: Fall Festival tabling planning

Commissioners discussed their availability to table at the 2019 Fall Family Festival. This event will take place at Memorial Park on Saturday, September 14 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sustainability and Environmental Programs are sharing a table together. Chair Weber is available in the morning. Commissioner Chen may be available in the early to mid-afternoon. Commissioners Swaminathan and Ramanathan are not available. Staff and/or Chair Weber will follow up with Commissioner Chen and Vice Chair Latshaw in the coming weeks for their availability. Donnelley will follow up with Environmental Programs to see who from that team will be available.

6. Subject: Student Green Grants project planning

Commissioners discussed the Green Grants program for students that will occur this school year. Commissioners discussed how they would like to have more closure from grant recipients than in the previous round of grants. Chair Weber shared the final program document from when the program last ran, and Commissioners provided inputs for this year's document, including: grant deadline is Friday, November 15, 2019 at 12 noon; receipts for expenses must be submitted by March 31, 2020; program provides monetary grants up to \$500 (based on budget) to Cupertino-area students. In addition, the following details of the program are to be added to the application:

- If you are awarded a grant and accept this award, you agree to table at the annual Cupertino Earth Day and Arbor Day Festival in April;
- If you are awarded a grant and accept this award, you agree to give a presentation at the Sustainability Speaker Series (date TBA).

Commissioners would also like to give grant recipients an item, such as a t-shirt.

Commissioner Swaminathan moved and Commissioner Chen seconded to approve the Green Grants program with the changes as discussed. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioner Latshaw absent.

Commissioner Chen left at 6:06 p.m.

STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Commission updates:

- Reach Codes Subcommittee members Commissioners Ramanathan and Swaminathan met to learn about reach codes and the efforts of other local cities. They will also be meeting with local kids to talk about reach codes.
- Commissioner Swaminathan shared that he is a member of the Santa Clara Valley Transport Authority (VTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for 2000 Measure A.

Staff updates:

- Donnelley shared staff changes: André Duurvoort is the new Sustainability Manager; Katy Nomura is the Assistant to the City Manager.

ADJOURNMENT- 6:29 p.m.