

# City of Capitola

## Commission on the Environment Meeting

### Minutes



**Wednesday, June 19, 2024– 6:00 PM**

Capitola City Hall, Community Room  
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

**Chair:** Jason Shepardson  
**Vice Chair:** Anthony Lacenere  
**Council Member:** Margaux Morgan  
**Commissioners:** Michelle Beritzhoff-Law, Peter Wilk  
**Youth Member:** Tucker Graessle

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**1. Call to Order and Roll Call –** Vice Chair Lacenere called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Commissioners Present: Anthony Lacenere, Michelle Beritzhoff-Law, Peter Wilk

Absent: Jason Shepardson, Margaux Morgan, Tucker Graessle

City Staff Present: Erika Senyk

**2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

**3. Oral and Written Communications**

Staff provided announcements regarding an advisory body meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> and an email that was sent by staff to collect responses from the Commission on availability to attend an invasive riparian vegetation removal training with the City's consultant, George McMenamin.

**4. Consider the minutes from the May 15, 2024 Regular Commission on the Environment Meeting**

There was a lack of quorum to approve the minutes, considering that only two Commissioners present at the June 19<sup>th</sup> COE meeting were also in attendance at the May 15<sup>th</sup> COE meeting. This item will be reagendaized for the July COE meeting.

**5. General Business**

**A. Santa Cruz World Surfing Reserve**

Recommended Action: Recommend that the City Council adopt a resolution incorporating Capitola into the Santa Cruz World Surfing Reserve.

**Motion to recommend that the City Council adopt a resolution incorporating Capitola into the Santa Cruz World Surfing Reserve: Commissioner Wilk**

**Seconded: Commissioner Beritzhoff-Law**

**Motion passed: 3-0-2**

## **B. Save our Shores FY 24-25 Contract**

Recommended Action: Staff presentation on the City's proposed contract renewal with Save Our Shores for FY 24-25.

The Commission discussed the contract renewal options for the agreement between the City and Save Our Shores for FY 2024-25. The Commission provided the following feedback:

- The Commission sees value in Capitola Beach cleanups for litter abatement and data retrieval purposes.
- The Commission was in disagreement regarding the best value for the number of beach cleanups proposed by Save Our Shores for FY 2024-25 (4 versus 6 cleanup events).
- The Commission was in agreement that staff should obtain additional information regarding the proposed business outreach surveys, prior to including that option in the contract for FY 2024-25 (e.g., locate examples of surveys conducted at businesses in surrounding jurisdictions by Save our Shores).

## **C. Plastic Pollution Enforcement**

Recommended Action: Discuss ideas for improving enforcement of regulations prohibiting the use of plastic straws and plastic pollution in Capitola.

Commissioner Beritzhoff-Law presented current state regulations and relevant City of Capitola municipal code chapters prohibiting the use of single use plastics.

Commissioner Beritzhoff-Law will provide to staff a sample flyer and proposed plan for notifying businesses of current single use plastic regulations for the Commission to review and discuss at the July COE meeting.

The Commission requested for staff to take the following actions prior to the July COE meeting:

- Identify options for increasing levels of enforcement, beyond abatement as a public nuisance, for businesses resisting compliance with City ordinances for single use plastics.
- Acquire information on the necessary protocols for distributing a flyer to local businesses that details the City ordinances for single use plastics.

## **6. Items for Future Agenda**

The Commission requested that the following items be agendized for a future meeting:

- Review and discuss sample flyer and proposed plan for notifying businesses of single use plastic regulations
- Invasive riparian vegetation removal projects

**Motion to move the July regular Commission on the Environment meeting from July 17, 2024 to July 10, 2024: Commissioner Wilk**

**Seconded: Vice Chair Lacenere**

**Motion passed: 3-0-2**

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm to the next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**ATTEST:**



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Erika Senyk, Environmental Projects Manager



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Anthony Lacenere, Vice Chair