



MINUTES
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016
6:00 PM
COMMUNITY ROOM
420 CAPITOLA AVENUE, CAPITOLA, CA 95010

Kristin Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Amie Forest, Kailash Mozumder, Peter Wilk, and Chair Kristin Sullivan

Commissioners Absent: Jacques Bertrand

City Staff Present: Rich Grunow, Steve Jesberg, Danielle Uharriet

Community Members Present: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Peter Wilk discussed Earth Hour. He suggested the COE promote the event in 2017.

Kailash Mozumder stated he will be attending a wildlife symposium in San Luis Obispo.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Peter Wilk made a motion to approve the January 27, 2016 and February 24, 2016 meeting minutes.

Kristin Sullivan seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Green Building Update

Rich Grunow stated the draft Green Building Update may be available to the COE in late spring or summer. Staff intends on modeling the city's program after City of Santa Cruz, who has created all the forms and procedures.

Peter Wilk stated he did not support making the city's requirements more restrictive for applicants. He wanted the process to be optional not mandatory.

Kristin Sullivan and Amie Forest disagreed and wanted to make the city's Green Building Program more restrictive, with incentives, than the minimal requirements, to meet and exceed the goals set forth in the Climate Action Plan.

Rich Grunow stated the adopted goals in the Climate Action Plan are to make the city requirements more restrictive. He said staff may consider a tiered approach to encourage varied levels of implementation, e.g. certificate, plaque, discounted fees.

2. Climate Action Plan Update

Rich Grunow stated the Monterey Bay Community Power Aggregation has released the feasibility study for technical review. The city council will be considering early adoption in the late spring or summer. Should the CCE proceed, then the city will have met and/or exceeded the climate reduction measures.

3. Sea Level Rise

Rich Grunow stated this is an ongoing draft study that may be available in late spring or summer. The draft study requires modifications prior to any public presentations.

4. Zoning Ordinance Update – Chapter 17.64 Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas

Rich Grunow requested comments from the COE regarding any changes to the Environmentally Sensitive Habitat section be submitted by early May for consideration by the Planning Commission. The proposed chapter is the same as the existing ordinance, with format changes.

5. Ongoing Work Items

a. Procurement Policies

The COE to review the existing Procurement Policies and advise staff of comments or changes. All changes will require review and approval of the City Council.

Amie Forest suggested prohibiting individual plastic bottles at city events.

b. Website

Amie Forest provided an update to the website. She requested additional web access for the page development and will contact Larry Laurent/IT to discuss.

c. Peery Park Habitat Restoration Project

Peter Wilk announced the next work day to be held on Saturday, April 16th. Kailash Mozumder suggested contacting the horticulture department at Cabrillo College for volunteers.

d. Eco Walk

Kristin Sullivan provided information to the COE on the previous attempts to publish an eco-walk map. She will send staff the files electronically.

e. Farmer's Market

Kristin Sullivan suggested the COE continue to research the possibility of bringing a farmer's market to Capitola. Amie Forest suggested the Beach and Village parking lot is a desirable location with adequate parking. Kailash Mozumder agreed to contact the local farmer's market organization and research possibilities for a Capitola market.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Climate Action Plan

Green Building

Website

Peery Park Habitat Restoration Project

Eco Walk

Farmer's Market

ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned to a Workshop Meeting on Wednesday, April 27, 2016.

Approved at the meeting of September 28, 2016



Danielle Uharriet
Environmental Projects Manager