

Environmental Quality Commission



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 1/17/2018
Time: 6:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Vice Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: DeCardy, Dickerson, Marshall, Martin
Absent: Bedwell, London, Smolke
Staff: Rebecca Lucky, Candise Almendral, and Milena Cancilla

C. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

D. Regular Business

D1. Discuss and consider recommending sustainability projects and/or programs for the City Council's annual work plan preparation meeting on January 29, 2018 (Staff Report #18-001-EQC).

ACTION: Motion and second (Martin/Dickerson) to support the proposed 2018 activities for the Sustainability Office presented in the staff report (numbered one through nine). In particular, the Environmental Quality Commission strongly supports the update to the Heritage Tree Ordinance Update as a high priority to complete by the end of this year.

The Environmental Quality Commission also advises the City Council to use the Climate Action Plan funds identified in the Capital Improvement Plan to expedite (if additional funding is needed) the following activities:

- An update to the community greenhouse gas inventory;
- Development of a Transportation Master Plan;
- Extending the new electric vehicle charging station requirements citywide; and/or
- Supporting the implementation of new green design standards in the General Plan

If no further funding or resources are needed to expedite the climate action plan related items proposed in the staff report, the Environmental Quality Commission advises the City Council to use the Climate Action Plan funds in the Capital Improvement Plan to:

1. Undertake a Phase II of the electric vehicle charging station policy by completing a gap analysis of areas in the community that are undersupplied with electric vehicle charging stations (such as residential or existing commercial areas) and identify policy and/or program options to prepare the community for a full transition to electric vehicles and encourage a higher rate of electric vehicle ownership; and/or
2. Undertake a Phase II of the new green design standards in the General Plan that could include extending the requirements to other areas of the city.

The Environmental Quality Commission designates the Chair to communicate this action to the City Council. (4-0-3; Bedwell, London, and Smolke absent)

D2. Discuss the Environmental Quality Commission's quarterly report to the City Council.

By acclamation, the Commission provided feedback to be incorporated into the quarterly report.

D3. Approve the November 15, 2017, Environmental Quality Commission meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion and second (Marshall/Dickerson) to approve the November 15, 2017, meeting minutes failed (2-0-2-3; DeCardy and Martin absent; Bedwell, London, and Smolke absent).

E. Reports and Announcements

E1. Commissioner reports

There were no commissioner reports.

E2. Staff updates and announcements

Sustainability Manager, Rebecca Lucky, provided a verbal report on staff recruitments, electric vehicle charging station policy update and informed that the policy will be discussed by the Planning Commission on January 22, 2018.

E3. Future agenda items

By acclamation, the Commission requested to add the following items to a future agenda:

- Discuss the Climate Action Plan target beyond 2020 (March) from the Climate Action Plan Subcommittee;
- Urban Forest Master Plan;
- Green Infrastructure;
- Heritage Tree Ordinance Update Plan;
- Environmental Quality Commission work plan update;
- Elect new commissioner for the Transportation Master Plan (March)

F. Adjournment

Vice Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Milena Cancilla