



MINUTES

SUNNYVALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION FEBRUARY 21, 2012

The Sustainability Commission met in regular session in the West Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. with Chair Sue Harrison presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission Members Present:

Commission Chair Sue Harrison
Commission Vice-Chair Regina Wheeler
Commissioner Barbara Fukumoto
Commissioner Gerry Glaser
Commissioner Amit Srivastava
Commissioner Dan Hafeman
Commissioner Joe Green-Heffern

Council Liaison: Councilmember Tara Martin-Milius (Absent)

Staff Present: John Stufflebean, Director of Environmental Services
Melody Tovar, Regulatory Programs Division Manager
Tim Kirby, Revenue Systems Supervisor
Dustin Clark, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, Staff Liaison

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

Tim Kirby, Revenue Systems Supervisor, provided the Commission a presentation on efforts to reformat the water bill design for water utility customers. The presentation included an overview of the water utility program, with statistics on customers and water consumption in the City. Revenue Systems Supervisor Kirby provided the Commission with a sample water bill and discussed some of the features of the design and solicited comments on suggested changes that could be incorporated on future water bills. Revenue Systems Supervisor Kirby also discussed a project to create a water report card that will be sent to customers highlighting their water consumption and providing useful information to help customers understand their water use compared to others in the City or their neighborhood. The Commission requested a follow-up presentation from Revenue Systems Supervisor Kirby next month to continue the presentation to understand issues around metering and an update on the Commissions suggested water bill enhancements.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public announcements.

There were no announcements.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1.A. Approval of draft minutes of Sustainability Commission meeting of January 17, 2012.

Commissioner Fukumoto moved and Commissioner Glaser seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 17 with minor modifications. Modifications included a clarifying comment from Commissioner Wheeler regarding her abstention during a vote. The second change made was to reflect Commissioner Fukumoto's comment regarding 511.org providing information for alternative commute options, in reference to Commissioner Glaser's motion regarding Bus Rapid Transit. The changes have been reflected in the January meeting minutes.

VOTE: 7-0 (Vote was unanimous)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION: Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

No comments were made by the Commission. No action was taken.

2. DISCUSSION: Sustainability Commission Annual Master Workplan

Commissioners were presented with the Commission's draft annual master workplan. The workplan lists all regularly scheduled board/commission meetings, specific issues identified in the Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar, and routine assignments specific to each board or commission. The Commission provided comments to staff regarding items they would like to see included on the workplan. One item the Commission wanted reflected on the workplan was the Climate Action Plan and when the Commission might discuss it before adoption. Staff will include this item on the workplan after identification of the appropriate timeframe. The Commission expressed their desire to see more issues listed on the workplan schedule. Staff explained that ranked study issues in the Commission's purview would be listed under additional issues since no definitive schedule has been identified for them to come to the Commission. Topics to be added to the "items yet to be scheduled" portion of the workplan include the regional recycled water plan, zero waste plan, ESD strategic infrastructure plan, water bill redesign and outreach. Issues will come to the Commission for input when appropriate.

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

No action was taken.

3. DISCUSSION: Environmental Services Department Strategic Plan

Director of Environmental Services, John Stufflebean, gave a presentation about the Environmental Services Department Strategic Plan. The presentation was the same presentation provided to Council during the Council-Staff Strategic Planning Workshop. Much of the discussion was based on the future renovation of the Water Pollution Control Plant and the options that have been identified and expansion of the recycled water system. Commissioner Fukumoto commented that her view was that the option that includes the wetlands approach appeared to offer higher environmental benefits, including lower energy intensity and GHG reduction potential compared to the other options. Director Stufflebean answered general questions from the Commission regarding the ESD Strategic Plan elements.

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

No action was taken.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Oral Comments

Commissioner Harrison Commented on the upcoming community outreach meetings regarding the Climate Action Plan and Land Use and Transportation Element update resulting from the Horizon 2035 Committees month of work. The outreach meetings will solicit community input regarding the plans prior to initiation of the Environmental Impact Report. The meeting will be held March 1, 8 and 15.

Commissioner Fukumoto commented that there will be a Grand Boulevard- Walk the Talk Forum on March 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Commissioner Fukumoto announced that the Drive-Less Challenge is approaching and proposed that the Sustainability Commission challenge the Planning Commission, BPAC or even the City Council.

Commissioner Fukumoto announced that the Silicon Valley Leadership Group is in the planning stages of the 2012 Affordable Housing Tour. The date for the tour is set for May 26 from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Additional details will be provided as when the planning is completed.

Commissioner Glaser solicited interest amongst the Commission for Commissioners to attend various sustainability related meetings and report back to the full Commission information gleaned from the event. Commissioners discussed upcoming meetings and interest in attending and reporting back. At each meeting Commissioners that have attended meetings will comment during Commission oral comments. A section will be added to the Commissioner Oral Comments section of the minutes for reporting on meetings attended and future meetings

Commissioner Srivastava commented that Councilmember Whittum wanted the Sustainability Commission input regarding the Parks dedication fees. Commissioner Srivastava proposed the topic as a future agenda item.

STAFF Oral Comments

Sustainability Coordinator Clark provided the Commission with an update on the results of the Council Study Issue Workshop in which some of the Commission's proposed study issues were ranked.

Sustainability Coordinator Clark provided a list of topics of interest raised by the Commission at past Commission meetings, as requested by the Commission.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin Clark, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

Reviewed by: John Stufflebean, Director of Environmental Services
Melody Tovar, Regulatory Programs Division Manager