

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017
AT LOS ALTOS COMMUNITY MEETING CHAMBERS,
1 NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD,
LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Teksler, Weiden, Bray, Eyre, Hedden, Yuan, Halkola

ABSENT: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Peter Fiekowsky, Los Altos resident and founder of Healthy Climate Alliance provided background on the organization and its mission and requested that the Environmental Commission support and be a lead signer on a Healthy Climate resolution. The proposed Los Altos Resolution for Climate Restoration expresses “that the City of Los Altos is committed to giving our children the same climate our grandparents gave us; restoring a safe and healthy climate.” Mr. Fiekowsky provided a copy of the resolution and his speech to the Commission.

Sharon Fiekowsky, Los Altos resident expressed support for the Resolution for Climate Restoration and encouraged the Commission to review and recommend it be signed by City Council.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Commission minutes

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Weiden and seconded by Commissioner Bray, the Commission, by a vote of 7 – 0, approved the minutes of the meeting of July 10, 2017 pending the correction of the date of SVCE’s attendance at the Downtown Green from July 20 to August 20.

2. Review and discuss 2017/18 Environmental Commission Goals and Work Plan

Management Analyst Sarah Henricks updated the Commission regarding the progress of the Green Buildings Report provided to staff by a Commission subcommittee, stating that staff would be meeting Wednesday, August 16, 2017 to discuss the report, review recommendations, and make suggestions as to the implementation of said recommendations, and will provide that feedback to the Commission at its September 11 meeting.

Mrs. Henricks also reported back to the Commission about a question posed at the July 10 meeting regarding solid waste diversion conducted by Mission Trail Waste System at special events. Initial research reveals that solid waste collected at special events is sorted off-site, suggesting that citizen volunteers are not necessary for on-site sorting during the event. Discussion followed. Mrs. Henricks will conduct additional follow-up and report back to the Commission.

a. Anti-idling discussion

Public Comment:

Cheryl Weiden, Sybil Cramer, and Judy William, Los Altos residents, and Shelly Gordon, Palo Alto resident, presented a brief report about the need for anti-idling efforts and requested support from the Environmental Commission in drafting and implementing a multi-faceted anti-idling resolution or ordinance. The group also provided a five-page report, an idling audit report, and a newspaper article from the Palo Alto Daily Post.

Action: After the anti-idling discussion, the Environmental Committee opted to form an anti-idling subcommittee composed of Commissioners Hedden (chair), Yuan, and Weiden. The subcommittee will meet with staff and prepare a progress report at the September 11 meeting.

3. Receive report on Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority (SVCEA)

a. Review of Silicon Valley Clean Energy Senior Center Community meeting

Staff Liaison, J. Logan gave an update on the presentation by SVCE at the Senior Center Community meeting, describing the conversation as one surrounding the migration of solar accounts from PG&E to SVCE and the timing associated with the change.

Commissioner Hedden reminded the Commission that SVCE will host an informational table at the Downtown Green on August 20.

b. Review August 9, 2017 SVCEA Board of Directors meeting

Commissioner Bray briefly reviewed the programming presentation given to the SVCE Board of Directors, focusing on the characterization of the programs into three categories: Electrification, Demand Management, and Foundational Programs. He also described the three programs presented to the Board: Connected Homes Energy and Demand Management, Commercial Demand Management, and SVCE GHG Inventory Data and Metrics. Commissioner Bray mentioned the interest by the Board to create a customer advisory committee to source additional feedback from the community. SVCE staff plans to prepare a proposal to provide to the Board of Directors outlining the process for establishing a customer advisory committee that is representative of all 12 communities and both commercial and residential customers. Discussion followed Commissioner Bray's review.

4. Input to the Hillview Community Center Task Force

Commissioner Weiden drafted a list of considerations that fall under the purview of the Environmental Commission and shared it with the group. Discussion followed the review of the list.

Action: Chair Teksler will create a more developed draft of recommendations to be exchanged between city staff and Commissioner Weiden before a finalized version is sent to the Hillview Community Center Task Force. Commissioner Hedden will serve as the Environmental Commission representative at the Task Force's August 26 meeting.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. Receive information and announcements from City staff

Staff Liaison, J Logan reviewed the Environmental Commissioners' attendance assignments for the remaining 2017 City Council meetings.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Teksler adjourned the meeting at 9:26 PM.

