



MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m., March 12, 2007
City Hall, Redwood Conference Room
One North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California 94022

CALL TO ORDER: 7:15 PM

ROLL CALL: Co-Chair Dinkelacker and Committee Members Coombs, Cooper, James

MINUTES:

The Committee approved Minutes of February 13, as amended (James/Coombs, 4-0 vote).

DISCUSSION

Term Limits

Committee Member James announced that he is resigning from committee to spend more time with family. Committee Member Cooper made a motion to express appreciation and gratitude to James for contribution to committee. The motion was seconded by Coombs and passed with a 4-0 vote.

At the October 2006 meeting, the committee had proposed different term limits that didn't seem to be communicated to Council based on the proposal from the Personnel Committee dated March 8, 2007. A motion was made by Committee Member James and seconded by Coombs (4-0 vote) to ask the Personnel Committee to reconsider the March 8th memo proposal to provide shortened first two-year terms expiring in 2009 to Coombs, Cooper and DeMichiel and to provide first four-year terms expiring in 2011 to Dinkelacker, Schink, Lim (provided confirmation of desire to continue on committee) and one other. If Lim decides to not continue or does not confirm his desire to continue with committee, then appoint two new members. Each appointed group would be eligible for a second term.

Website Development

The committee briefly brainstormed items that could potentially be considered as content for the site. Committee Member Coombs and James would like to see that a sub-committee be formed to work on the development of the website between meetings. A motion was made by Committee Member Cooper to table discussion until next meeting. Committee Member James seconded the motion (4-0 vote).

Committee Goals and Objectives

Motion made by Committee Member James to table discussion to next meeting, and it was seconded by Committee Member Coombs (4-0 vote).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A motion was made by Committee Member James and seconded by Committee Member Cooper to place on agenda after approval of minutes a new section that would allow committee members to provide update on activities that have occurred since the last meeting. The motion passed by a 4-0 vote. It was agreed that the new section would be titled "Informational Updates of Matters Discussed at Prior Meeting".

Further discussion was held on forming sub-committees for named projects that are a priority to the group. The committee would like to clarify whether they would be in violation of the Brown Act if a sub-committee of two or three people would form and meet regularly to work on assigned projects. Staff liaison is to find out. A motion was made by Committee Member James and seconded by Coombs to establish a mechanism to make forward progress for named projects.

Committee Member Coombs provided update on Water Resource Protection Ordinance. She stated that Los Altos and Mountain View agreed to support the guidelines.

Committee Member Cooper announced that a meeting about the Adobe Creek Collaborative is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21st at Hillview Community Center from 6:30 – 8:30 PM to discuss the status of the creek project.

Committee Member Coombs announced that a lecture on Watershed Management and Urban Ecology would be held by Andy Lipkis on March 21st from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in Menlo Park.

Committee Member Dinkelacker mentioned that individual states are paying more attention to the environmental impact of greenhouse gases more so than the Federal Government.

The committee would like staff liaison to provide an update on the city's progress with the Green Building Ordinance at the April meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:15 PM.

Rebecca Zito
Economic Development Coordinator
Liaison to the Environmental Committee