

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2011, AT
7:00 P.M. AT LOS ALTOS CITY HALL, ONE NORTH SAN ANTONIO ROAD,
LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Bray, DeMichiel, Anderson, Keller, Reed

ABSENT: Eyre

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING COMMENCED IN MEMORY OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION CHAIR PATTY ROSEWATER FOLLOWED BY A
MOMENT OF SILENCE AND CONCLUDED IN HER MEMORY.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Comments in memory of Environmental Commission Chair Patty Rosewater were presented by community members.

1. Commission Minutes
MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KELLER to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 8, 2011. THE MOTION CARRIED; COMMISSIONER DEMICHEL abstained because she was not in attendance at the August 8, 2011 meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. In Memory of Patty Rosewater, Chair of Environmental Commission
 - a. Comments were presented by Commissioners in memory of Chair Rosewater.
 - b. Tree planting in memory of
Discussion and MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DeMICHEL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KELLER to recommend to Council planting a tree in memory of Chair Rosewater. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. Disposal and Management of Expanded Polystyrene
 - a. Report by staff on August 23, 2011 Council Referral of Letter from Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County (RWRC) to Environmental Commission for study and to make recommendations back to Council and Environmental Commission to consider adding this assignment to its Work Plan.

- b. Remarks from Teresa Montgomery, Mission Trail Waste System on polystyrene overview for recycling.
 - c. Remarks from Margie Suozzo, Greentown Los Altos about co-op purchasing for commercial to-go food containers.
 - d. Discussion and consensus to add polystyrene assignment to Work Plan. MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KELLER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER REED to look more closely at polystyrene issue and regulation with recommendation to Council. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
 - e. Decision to form a subcommittee of Commissioners Anderson, Keller, and Reed.
4. Opportunity for Partnership with Cal Water for Water Efficient Landscape Education Classes
Report by Vice Chair Bray. Consensus is for no use of City logo/seal on advertisements or materials published by CalWater. The planned topic is "Designing, planting, and caring for California Native Plant Gardens" on November 5, 2011 at Hillview Hall from 10-noon.
5. Sustainability Element in the General Plan
Environmental Commission Task Force composed of Chair Rosewater, Vice Chair Bray and Commissioner Eyre meet with James Walgren. RFP (Request for Proposals) was released and there are three bidders in the process.
6. Environmental Commission Website Revisions
Activity progress report by Commissioner DeMichiel. Consensus is to proceed.
7. Environmental Commission Work Plan Progress Review
Review and discussion of 2011-2012 Work Plan presented to City Council at the Joint Meeting on April 5.
8. City of Los Altos 60th Anniversary Celebration
Report by Commissioner Anderson on Planning Committee meeting progress.
9. Trees of Los Altos Educational Outreach
Consensus to move on without educational outreach project. Commissioner Anderson will check on status of "Trees of Los Altos" account.
10. Water Exhibit at the History Museum
Presentation by Linda Gass, Water Exhibit Chair, on "Shaped by Water" exhibit at the Los Altos History Museum October 8, 2011 through April 22, 2012.
11. Items for Information
 - a. Staff gave status update on single-stream waste receptacle labels for downtown.
 - b. Staff comment on Environmental Commission Work Plan used as a model with other Commissions.
 - c. Staff comment on "Best Practices" presentation for Commissions.
 - d. Margie Suozzo remarks on 2011 Coastal Cleanup Day – Greentown creek clean-up on September 17, 2011, 9am to noon; GTLA Sept. 18 and Sept. 21 events.
 - e. Teresa Montgomery, Mission Trail Waste System, remarks on composting materials for community.

f. “The Environment and Conservation” Exhibit Sept. 10-Feb. 24, 2012. Remark by staff.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND DIRECTIONS ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT IN MEMORY OF PATTY ROSEWATER, CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KELLER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER REED to adjourn meeting in memory of Chair Rosewater. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY at 8:43 p.m.

J. Logan, Assistant City Manager and STAFF LIAISON