



## MINUTES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

---

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

---

### **CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM**

**ROLL CALL:** Chair DeMichiel and Committee Members Coombs, Dinkelacker, James, Orr, Cooper, and Schink

### **MINUTES:**

The Committee approved Minutes of January 29, as amended (Dinkelacker/Coombs, 5-0 vote).

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Arbor Day Event**

Committee member Coombs wrote an article on trees in Los Altos to promote Arbor Day and increase awareness about local trees. The article will be submitted to the Town Crier for publication. An additional article was submitted to the Communiqué for an upcoming issue.

#### **Website Development**

Committee member James reported on his research to use the city's website as the hosting site for a website developed and maintained by the Environmental Committee. The city's site has several limitations. The city will provide a page that contains general information about the committee, and will maintain a link to a content rich site. James also provided information about working with Mountain View High School to maintain and update the information on the site. Committee member Dinkelacker discussed the annual costs associated with registering, hosting and maintaining the website. Annual costs would be fairly nominal and should be under \$500/year. The committee discussed content for the site and will spend more time brainstorming its subject matter at the next meeting. A motion was made to submit a letter to the City's Finance Director, requesting that the city allocate money to the development of the website.

#### **Committee Goals and Objectives**

The committee discussed types of projects to pursue for the upcoming year. The consensus was that they should have community appeal and would like to avoid product pitches or anything that specifically promotes a commercial use. There was interest to analyze the feasibility of an environmental lecture series and to find opportunities to partner with other associations. Finally, the committee would like to be an advocate for green building construction and renewable energy.

#### **Summary of City Led Environmental Projects and Green Building Ordinance**

Zito briefly summarized that the city does not mandate or regulate environmental construction or building development. There are no incentives for people to pursue this type of construction at this time. Planning is working on developing a green building ordinance that will be ready for review later in the year.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Water Resource Protection Ordinance**

The committee discussed the Water Resources Protection ordinance scheduled to go before Council at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. They felt that the report implied that there was more collaboration than actually occurred. The committee did not see what was going to go to Council, and feels that they were not given enough information to be mentioned in report. There was concern about Council asking for the position of the committee. The committee feels as though they have no position because they weren't well informed. Zito was asked to speak to Community Development Director about level of collaboration.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Coombs reported on the agreement with the Community Foundation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:15 PM.

---

Rebecca Zito  
Economic Development Coordinator  
Liaison to the Environmental Committee