

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF LOS ALTOS, HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M.
TELECONFERENCE**

ESTABLISH QUORUM

PRESENT: Chair Delagneau, Vice Chair Hecht, Commissioners Teksler, van Reis Commissioner Humayun (arrived 7:03 p.m.), Commissioner Lu (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)

ABSENT: Commissioner Weiden

ATTENDEES: Council Member (Council Liaison) Fligor, Director (Environmental Services and Utilities) Aida Fairman, Director (Development Services) Nick Zornes, Roopak Kandasamy, Roberta Philips, Monia Waldman, Jon Saunders, Dashiell Leeds, Gary Hedden, Jonathan Weinberg, Ken Branson, Aarathi.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public comments were provided by Roberta Phillips and Gary Hedden.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION

1. Environmental Commission Minutes

Approved minutes of regular meeting of August 8, 2022

Action: Upon a motion by Commissioner Teksler, seconded by Vice Chair Hecht, the Environmental Commission approved the minutes of the meeting of August 8, 2022. The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Delagneau, Hecht, Humayun, Lu, Teksler, van Reis

NOES: None

ABSENT: Weiden

ABSTAIN: None

2. Environmental Commission Meetings Schedule

Chair Delagneau proposed changing the regular Environmental Commission meeting schedule to second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m., followed by input by the Commissioners regarding their availability for the proposed schedule.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice Chair Hecht, seconded by Commissioner van Reis, the Environmental Commission approved maintaining the regular meeting schedule of the Environmental Commission on second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

The motion was approved (6-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Delagneau, Hecht, Humayun, Lu, Teksler, van Reis.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Weiden

ABSTAIN: None

Public Comment: None

3. Gas-Powered Leaf Blower (GPLB) Ban

The Commission discussed a statement of support for the citizen group (GreenTown Los Altos Clean Air Advocates) to be presented to the Council by them to include homeowners in the GPLB enforcement ban. The Commission approved the statement with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Lu to include additional education and outreach.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice Chair Hecht, seconded by Commissioner Teksler, the Environmental Commission approved the statement of support including Commissioner Lu's friendly amendment.

The motion was approved (5-0) by the following vote:

AYES: Delagneau, Hecht, Lu, Teksler, van Reis.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Weiden

ABSTAIN: Humayun

Public Comments:

Monica Waldman stated her support for the ban on selling new GLPB (AB 1346) in Los Altos but indicated that the list of Cities included in the statement of support attached to the item (pg. 7 of the Agenda packet) was erroneous. She also expressed her opposition to including homeowners in the GPLB enforcement ban in Los Altos. Roberta Philips stated her support for the comment by Monica Waldman.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. Electrification Services

Roopak Kandasamy of BlocPower, a climate and energy start up, updated the commission on their electrification services with specific references to work currently ongoing or planned in other jurisdictions. This was followed by questions and discussion by the Commissioners.

Public Comment:

Monica Waldman expressed her support for BlocPower services with concern regarding their capacity to undertake additional work and sought clarification on a service item.

5. Reach Codes

Commissioner Teksler provided an update on the Reach Codes Subcommittee's presentation to the City Council followed by supplemental information by Staff.

Public Comment:

Dashiell Leeds, Conservation Organizer for the Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter, expressed support for the Draft Reach Codes proposed by the Environmental Commission and provided information on additional measures that could be explored by the Commission.

6. Tree Protection Ordinance

Commissioner van Reis, member, Urban Forest Management subcommittee, made a presentation on the work of the Subcommittee on the Tree Protection Ordinance with input from Commissioner Lu, member, Urban Forest Management subcommittee. Director Aida Fairman provided clarification regarding the City Council Direction on the scope of the work

to be performed by the Commission. This was followed by questions, comments and discussion by the Commission on the Urban Forest Management Subcommittee's presentation. Director Nick Zornes provided additional input and clarification on the Commission's scope of work and the discussion items.

Public Comment:

Gary Hedden, GreenTown, expressed support for the work by the Urban Forest Management Subcommittee and provided information on the Arbor Day participation by Los Altos and other cities.

7. Environmental Commission Work Plan

The Commission received information from the subcommittees and discussed the Work Plan items.

8. City Staff Updates

Director Aida Fairman provided an update on the Compost Giveaway Event at Municipal Service Center on August 6 and on the status of the new sustainability coordinator.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chair Delagneau and Vice Chair Hecht reported on the August 23 and September 6 City Council meetings, respectively. Commissioner Laura Teksler announced and provided information on the Ion Battery Recycling event at Almond School, Los Altos and Green at Home tour in Palo Alto. Chair Delagneau reported on his attendance at a meeting on empowering residents to take climate action.

POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Presentation by GreenTown on heat pumps (for November Environmental Commission)

Updates by GreenTown on EV Fair (for November Environmental Commission)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Delagneau adjourned the meeting at 9:04 P.M.