

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CULVER CITY
SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY SUSTAINABILITY
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

August 10, 2016
3:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Council Member Sahli-Wells called the meeting of the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Göran Eriksson, Council Member
 Meghan Sahli-Wells, Council Member

Staff Present: Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director
 Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst

oOo

Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Council Member Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the Subcommittee:

Karen Kurakawa indicated that she had been unable to attend the recent City Council meeting and was present to voice her support for a ban on polystyrene and for the previous plastic bag ban; she asked the City to consider being truly sustainable; discussed resource consumption; the requirement that accessory units be a minimum of 1,000 square feet; constraints of the lot; cultural consciousness; open space; keeping the City temperate; she felt the zoning was outdated; and she discussed examination of the Master Plan.

Discussion ensued between subcommittee Members and Ms. Kurakawa regarding examination of the General Plan; appreciation to Ms. Kurakawa for her work on the Gateway Neighborhood; the upcoming Community Discussion on Affordable Housing; opportunities to address the issue; existing zoning that results in expensive rents; and diversity.

David Voncannon discussed the need for additional recycling facilities in the City and he indicated that subplot lots for smaller housing units would be considered as part of the General Plan.

Subcommittee Members indicated that consideration of additional recycling facilities could be placed on an agenda and that additional recycling facilities would be discussed on October 19.

Aura Walker encouraged the ban on polystyrene; expressed concern with pollution and private endorsements of those who oppose the ban; she discussed her involvement in the ban fracking movement for Culver City; the location of the Inglewood Oil Fields on the fault line; she expressed concern with affordable housing; and she noted that there was no recycling in her building.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding encouragement to Ms. Walker to speak with Catherine Vargas, the City's Environmental Coordinator; the discussion of polystyrene planned for the next meeting; meeting notification; housing concerns; cities that are including economic and social justice as part of their Climate Action Plans; and the intent to include social, racial, and economic justice as part of the Climate Action Plan in the City's General Plan.

Michelle Weiner was pleased that the City Council had returned the matter back to the Subcommittee to formulate recommendations; she suggested looking to the County or other cities for models of ordinances; she thanked Catherine Vargas for facilitating Repair Cafés to reduce items placed in the waste stream; discussed meeting goals for Zero Waste; difficulty finding space for Repair Cafés; and she requested assistance from the Subcommittee.

Council Member Eriksson received clarification regarding event needs; items repaired; and previous events.

David Voncannon suggested that the Repair Café could possibly use the space where his Neighborhood Association meets.

o0o

Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

o0o

Agenda Items

Item A-4
(Out of Sequence)

Anaerobic Digesters - New Frontier for Food Waste

Catherine Vargas introduced the item and provided background on Mike Silvas.

Mike Silvas, CR&R, provided background on himself and Anaerobic Digesters; discussed the current transportation and recyclables contract with the City; their contract with Los Angeles and the partnership with Southern California Gas Company; distribution lines; flexibility; surplus; permits; government support; and the process.

Discussion ensued between Subcommittee Members, staff and audience members regarding the pipeline connected to the facility; the collection system; processing non-bio waste; Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) cars; limitations on garden waste; the tipping fee; concern with combining food waste with green waste; compost distribution; using CNG infrastructure; creating a cost benefit analysis; Air Quality Management District (AQMD) permits; CO₂; impacts; byproducts; hauling options; the collection system; compost for residents; and collection from businesses.

Council Member Eriksson presented an example of the way food waste is collected in Sweden.

Additional discussion ensued between staff; the speaker;

Subcommittee Members and members of the audience regarding compostable bags; newspapers; compost pails; tours of the facility for community members; the opening date; capacity; other cities considering signing on; and the first come first served nature of the program.

oOo

Item A-1

Approval of Minutes from the April 6, 2016 Meeting

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, indicated that a correction was needed to indicate that Jeremy Green is now serving as Deputy City Clerk to the Subcommittee and as such, she would be signing the minutes from the April 6, 2016 meeting.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAHLI-WELLS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 6, 2016 MEETING AS AMENDED.

oOo

Item A-2

LADWP, City of LA and GSW Potable Water Conservation Regulations in Response to the Governor's April 2016 Executive Order

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, discussed City Water Conservation Restrictions; amendments by the Governor to the Statewide Water Conservation Mandate; changes to landscape watering; development of a three-year stress test plan that, if successful, would allow retailers not to have to adhere to a percentage water reduction; Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and Golden State Water (GSW) stress test plans; along with the differences and similarities between the City's regulations for water conservation and those of the retailers and the Governor's Executive Order; bringing the City's ordinance to be in line with GSW; review of the City ordinance; recommendation that a Level 1 be adopted instead of Level 2; and suggested changes to make the City closer to what GSW advocates.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members

regarding proposed changes; length of time for watering; scientific data to support time limits; drip irrigation; minimizing runoff; conflicting information going out; concern with backpedaling on water regulations; facilitating a culture change; the need for additional research; drip irrigation vs. sprinklers; hand watering; having stronger rules than GSW; restrictions on businesses; consideration of making changes to the ordinance; Level 1 vs. Level 2; direction from the Subcommittee; water saved from having a pool cover; a suggestion to recommend that the City Council require pool covers with a Level 1 designation or on a permanent basis; permit requirements; consistency; the total amount of watering time whether over 2 days or 3 days or how many zones are used; sport field watering; exemptions to allow for the healthy upkeep of sports fields; housing developments with large open space areas; category of usage; maintenance and repair; low flow and deep watering; reduced runoff; the LADWP stress test; next steps; West Basin Water District and graywater; appreciation to Ms. Vargas for the graywater workshop; permitting home graywater systems; issues with permitting in L.A. County; and encouragement to move forward with facilitating the use of graywater.

o0o

Item A-3

Community Choice Aggregation: LA County Progress Report

Joe Susca, Senior Management Analyst, distributed information to the audience for the discussion; provided background on the item; and a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding staffing; additional options in the future; grid cost; the continuing involvement of Southern California Edison; options for customers; and participation by other cities.

Michelle Weiner, Transition Culver City, received clarification regarding outreach; permitting; identified sites; and community buy-in.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the jobs opportunity aspect; potential sites; brownfields; comments received; resiliency; buying

excess energy from rooftop solar; community involvement; examination of the Joint Powers Authority format; actions by the County Board of Supervisors; timing; education; and marketing materials.

o0o

Item A-5

Next Meeting Date - October 19, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the polystyrene issue; outreach; actions of other cities; scheduling the meeting time for maximum participation; bill inserts; creating a matrix of city information; recycling vs. banning; food packaging vs. packing materials; local vs. national policies; dealing with Styrofoam as a whole; examining the total recycling program; Zero Waste; alternatives; costs; hiring of the new Environmental and Programs Operations Manager; pursuing high impact items; taking the opportunity to address broader issues; scheduling a meeting for a ban on single-use polystyrene; notification; and extending an invitation to Ballona Creek Renaissance to present their plan.

Jim Lamm, Ballona Creek Renaissance, discussed the actions of other cities.

o0o

Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Council Member Sahli-Wells invited public participation.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

o0o

Items from Subcommittee Members

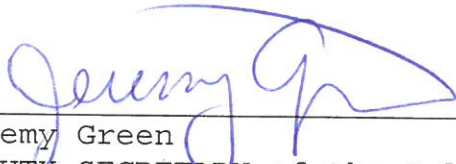
Council Member Eriksson reported that he would be speaking at the Waste Conversion and Technology Conference and Trade Show on August 16 in San Diego and at a one-day seminar on October 27 on *The Power of Waste: Renewable Natural Gas for Southern California* put on by Southern California Gas and the Energy Commission.

o0o

Adjournment

There being no further business, at 5:23 p.m., the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council adjourned its meeting to September 14, 2016.

o0o



Jeremy Green
DEPUTY SECRETARY of the Culver City Sustainability
Subcommittee of the City Council Culver City, California

APPROVED



Meghan Sahli-Wells
Council Member, Sustainability Subcommittee of the City
Council Culver City, California