

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

March 1, 2017
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 3:01 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
Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and
Operations Manager
Helen Chin, Management Analyst
Cathi Vargas, Environmental Coordinator

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Council Member Sahli-Wells invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Agenda Items

Item A-1

Approval of Minutes from the October 19, 2016 Meeting

Council Member Sahli-Wells pointed out that the umlaut was missing from Council Member Eriksson's name on the first page of the minutes.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAHLI-WELLS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIKSSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE OCTOBER 19, 2016 MEETING AS CORRECTED.

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Item A-2

Discussion of Preliminary Plans for Outreach and Education to the Affected City Businesses Regarding Polystyrene Ban

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

The Committee invited public input:

The following members of the audience addressed the Committee:

Shae Cunningham, Ballona Creek Renaissance (BCR), suggested that the City website provide resources to help identify brick and mortar stores that sell polystyrene alternatives.

Sandrine Cassidy, BCR, reported that BCR has a promotional video available to promote the polystyrene ban and the use of reusable materials.

Mike Doshi, The Gnarly Beach Comber, reported the use of road sign information message boards to advertise the ban in a Massachusetts city and he suggested having a countdown to the polystyrene ban on the City website.

Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation discussed rethinking disposables recourse; highlighting demonstrated economic impacts on businesses switching away from

polystyrene; and he suggested trying special refuse containers along the Ballona Creek bike path that are more easily accessible while on bikes.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding developing a reuse program for take-out containers, and identifying reusable products (plates, cups, and cutlery) for City facilities; the approval of the Polystyrene ban at the December Meeting; introduction of the ordinance at the February City Council meeting; promotional efforts on the Polystyrene ban; production of a video for presentation to Culver City business groups; letters drafted to businesses; including compliance with the polystyrene ban in the business license renewal process; onsite staff assistance to help businesses with the polystyrene transition; creation of educational reference booklets for polystyrene alternatives; bulk purchasing for businesses to reduce costs for polystyrene alternatives; and publishing a timeline of progression of the polystyrene ban on the Culver City website.

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Item A-3

Discussion About Progress Report to Questions from December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting and Discussion of City-Wide Implementation of Residential and Commercial Recycling Programs, Including Communal Recycling Centers and AB1826 Organics Recycling

Kim Braun, Environmental Programs and Operations Manager, provided an overview of the material of record including responses to questions from the Mayor at the December 12, 2016 City Council Meeting and an update on City recycling programs.

The following members of the audience addressed the Committee:

Shea Cunningham, BCR, spoke about the Recycling and Sustainability program of the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD), and about the importance of lids on recycling containers to prevent bird and wildlife from getting into trash and recycling materials along Ballona Creek.

Craig Cadwallader, Surfrider Foundation, spoke about the recycling program in the Montebello Unified School District.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding finding a site for drop off centers for recycling including the parking lot next to Bed Bath & Beyond; identifying additional organics processing technology in Los Angeles County; staff agreement to return with information on more containers at parks, bus stops, and public facilities; a report to the City Council on the conclusions of the polystyrene recycling pilot program; and signage on existing cumulative recycling bins.

Council Member Sahli-Wells requested that the memo be sent to all City Council Members.

Additional discussion ensued between Subcommittee Members and staff regarding bus stop trash containers; containers with one side for recycling and one side for trash, and the inevitable mixing of the two; clarification that in order to do the project, a specialized two waste collection truck would be needed; court ordered volunteers; staff training; organics/food waste; businesses that do not have space for organics bins; alternative, smaller, individualized digesters; ensuring that organics bin space availability is in the building code; refurbishing of businesses; requirements that multifamily buildings must offer recycling; the successful grant to establish the program; ensuring that recycling is maintained in the building; recycling drop off centers for commercial business and multifamily; helping businesses that do not have space for recycling; considerations when determining the location of recycling centers; the very successful, but now discontinued drop off center at Westfield Mall; and potential alternate locations.

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Item A-4

Formation of Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, introduced the item.

Gil Borboa, Water Resources Manager for Santa Monica,

provided an overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the Loyola Marymount University research project on the efficacy of raingardens; a request that staff look into accessing the data to help support the Culver City raingarden at the end of Pearson Street and Ballona Creek; and staff agreement to bring the GSA Memorandum of Understanding back to the Sustainability Subcommittee for review at the next meeting and then to the City Council before the due date in June, 2017.

Council Member Sahli- Wells reported that she serves on the County Water Resilience Plan Working Group.

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Item A-5

Discussion of Tree City USA Designation for Culver City

Helen Chin, Management Analyst, reviewed the benefits of applying for recognition, and she outlined criteria needed for eligibility noting that Culver City had already satisfied the first three criteria, but needs an Arbor Day.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding benefits of having Culver City become a Tree City; the need for Mayoral approval; timing; and a request that staff to look into the Arbor Day Foundation Energy-Saving Trees Program where citizens can plant trees to shade their homes.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

Council Member Sahli-Wells invited public participation.

Sandrine Cassidy announced several events being held by Ballona Creek Renaissance including the Up the Creek Art Show.

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Items from Subcommittee Members

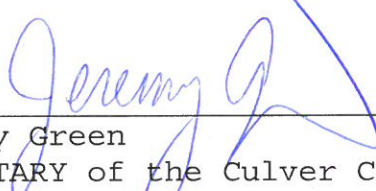
None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 5:11 p.m., the Sustainability Subcommittee of the City Council adjourned its meeting to April 19, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

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Jeremy Green
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