



AGENDA

CAPITOLA COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, June 16, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola CA

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

COMMISSION MEMBERS: Bruce Arthur, Amie Forest, Maddie Marlatt, Dennis Norton, Kristin Sullivan, Elisabeth Russell - Chairperson

2. WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The commission will receive written communications and consider brief oral communications about items not on the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 21, 2014

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. Rain Barrel Program
- b. City Hall Landscape Project and Parking Lot LID Project
- c. Water Issues
 - Turf Removal at city facilities

5. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

6. ADJOURNMENT – Adjourn to a Workshop on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers, 420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, California.

If you require special assistance in order to attend the meeting, including needs addressed by American with Disabilities Act, please notify the City at least 3 days prior to meeting by calling (831) 475-7300.



MEETING MINUTES CAPITOLA COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Monday, April 21, 2014 – 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola CA

Chairperson Elisabeth Russell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Members present: Bruce Arthur, Amie Forest, Dennis Norton, Kristin Sullivan, and Elisabeth Russell - Chairperson

Members absent: Maddie Marlatt

City Staff Present: Rich Grunow, Danielle Uharriet

Community Members Present: None

2. WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 24, 2014

Dennis Norton made a motion to approve the February 24, 2014 meeting minutes. Amie Forest seconded. Motion passed 4-0, Elisabeth Russell abstained.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

4.a Climate Action Plan

Community Development Director Rich Grunow presented the status of the Climate Action Plan. Staff will return to the COE this summer to offer a more detailed presentation of the CAP and to seek the COE input and recommendation on potential GHG emission reduction measures and other CAP related issues.

The Commission was supportive of staff's efforts and will be looking forward to assisting in the process.

4.b Capitola Open Streets Community Day – May 4, 2014

Danielle Uharriet stated that staff will be at a city table and providing brochures on stormwater, pet waste, and Soquel Creek. She requested any information the COE wanted to distribute be submitted to staff for review and publication by the end of the week. Amie Forest suggested handing out a bookmark. Kristin Sullivan suggested an informational brochure about the COE; Elisabeth Russell suggested a solar promotion brochure.

4.c Solar Promotion Letter

Elisabeth Russell presented a draft letter to solar provider's announcing the city's Green Energy Incentive Program; and a list of providers. Elisabeth will provide staff with the email distribution list. The Commission suggested an article about the Program be included in the next city newsletter.

Bruce Arthur made a motion to request staff to send the letter to the solar providers. Kristin Sullivan seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

4.d Sub-Committees:

- Rispin Gardens

Bruce Arthur stated he had met with Steve Jesberg. The garden project would need to be tied to the overall landscape plan for the Rispin property. The Commission continued discussion about the possibility of incorporating a water storage tank within the water tower structure.

The Commission requested Mike Arnone attend the next workshop to discuss future landscape plans on city properties.

- **Governmental Structures**

The Commission discussed the new Title 24 regulations and requirements for all development which incorporates future energy conservation facilities, i.e. planned solar installation. The Commission requested a copy of Title 24 when available.

- **Stormwater**

The Commission discussed the new Phase II stormwater permit and implementation; and current irrigation requirements. Building, Planning and Public Works staff are now implementing the PCRs specified by the State. Bruce Arthur offered to talk to Soquel Creek Water District regarding their landscape irrigation requirements.

4.e Water Issues

Amie Forest encouraged the Commission to continue to pursue a demonstration garden site to promote water conservation. The Commission requested staff to research the possibility of the City partnering with Soquel Creek Water District and Santa Cruz Municipal Utilities to promote water conservation and offer rain barrels to the citizens of Capitola at a reduced rate or for free. The Commission requested a status report of the various plans to remove turf in city facilities.

5. ITEMS FOR NEXT WORKSHOP AGENDA

- a. Sub-Committees:
 - Citywide Landscape Plans
 - Governmental Structures
 - Stormwater
 - Water district conservation partnership

6. ADJOURNMENT – The commission adjourned at 7:35 p.m. to a Workshop on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers, 420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, California.

Approved at the meeting of June 16, 2014

Danielle Uharriet
Environmental Projects Manager

**CITY OF CAPITOLA
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
Agenda Report**

Meeting Date: June 16, 2014

Agenda Item: 4.a

Subject: Rain Barrel Program

The Commission requested staff to research the possibility of the City partnering with Soquel Creek Water District and Santa Cruz Municipal Utilities to promote water conservation and offer rain barrels to the citizens of Capitola at a reduced rate or for free.

Capitola residents are located within two water districts with two different rain catchment programs: The Santa Cruz Municipal Utilities rain barrel program offered residents rain barrels at a discounted rate with a maximum of four barrels per account. The program successfully sold out of barrels for this season, but barrels will be available in the fall. Soquel Creek Water District offers residents a rebate for rain barrels at \$25 per barrel.

The Santa Cruz Municipal Utilities and the Scotts Valley Water District have successful rain barrel programs through Rain Water Solutions, a company that works directly with municipalities to offer an Ivy, 50 gallon capacity rain barrel which is made in the USA, 100% recycled plastic and 100% recyclable. The Ivy barrel retails for \$169 plus delivery fees, and is available on-line for ~\$159. An price quote from Rain Water Solutions for a program offered by Capitola is \$70 per barrel for 99 barrels (33 barrels/pallet). A 99 barrel program was recommended by Rain Water Solutions as a first time program. If the barrels sell out, then additional programs can be organized.

Staff has begun working with Soquel Creek Water District to allow residents who purchase a rain barrel through the city's program to apply for a rebate from the District.

Development of the rain barrel program and staff coordination with Soquel Creek Water District is in the initial stages. It is anticipated that staff would present the program to the City Council later this summer for implementation in the fall.

Recommended Action: The Commission recommends the City Council approve a 99 rain barrel city-wide program available to all residents at a price of \$70 per barrel with a limit of two barrels per property.

Attachment A: Ivy, 50 gallon capacity rain barrel specification sheet



50 gallon rain barrel

TYPE

50 gallon rain barrel

RAIN BARREL MANUFACTURING PROCESS

Blow molded with High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)
UV stabilized against long term effects of the sun

RECYCLABILITY

Ivy in classic Black is made of 100% recycled plastic and is 100% recyclable

DESIGN

Easy to assemble, install and is stable when full

RAIN BARREL DIMENSIONS

Height: 42.5"
Top diameter: 22.5"
Bottom diameter: 18"

WEIGHT

Empty: 16 pounds
Full: 424 pounds

FUNCTION AND FEATURES

American made
Linking capacity
2 overflow ports
Opaque plastic to prevent algae growth
Barrels nest for easy storage and transport
All parts included, 3/4" valve, mosquito screen, overflow hose
Locking lid with reusable zip ties

SHIPPING SPECIFICATIONS

40" X 48" x 92" high: 33 rain barrels per pallet
Full 53' truck load: 858 rain barrels

OPTIONAL ADD ONS

Self leveling linking kit - available March 2014
Downspout diverter - available March 2014



Ivy, 50 gallon capacity rain barrel



3812 Tarheel Drive, Suite C
Raleigh, NC 27609
919-835-1699

RainWaterSolutions.com
RainBarrelProgram.org

**CITY OF CAPITOLA
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
Agenda Report**

Meeting Date: June 16, 2014

Agenda Item: 4.b

Subject: City Hall Landscape Project and Parking Lot LID Project

Included in the proposed FY 2014/2015 City Budget/Capitola Improvement Program is funding for city hall landscape improvements.

At the May COE Workshop the Commission reviewed and discussed a site and landscape plan designed by Michael Arnone and Associates. The Commission suggested that the design incorporate a demonstration garden with interpretive signage.

Staff requests that the Commission consider sending a letter to the City Council supporting the budget allocation for the city hall landscape and site improvements; and support hiring Michael Arnone and Associates to design the city hall landscape and site design plans that include a demonstration garden and signage plan. The Commission will have the opportunity to review and provide recommendations to the City Council of the final landscape and signage plans.

The City has applied to receive a financial incentive to participate in a Proposition 84-funded Low Impact Development (LID) Design Program. The initial site assessment identified stormwater management features that capture and infiltrate rainwater from the city hall parking lot, and identified opportunities to improve landscape water conservation and reduce irrigation run-off from the parking areas.

The project will be ranked among other Program candidates according to project benefits. The highest-ranking projects will be selected to advance to the LID Design Phase for development of a preliminary design plan. Each program phase will evaluate projects on various LID benefits prior to advancing to the next stage of design and construction. City funding will be required for each continued phase of the program.

Recommended Action:

1. The Commission send a letter to the City Council supporting the proposed budget allocation for the city hall landscape and site improvements;
2. The Commission support hiring Michael Arnone and Associates to design city hall landscape and site design plans, including a demonstration garden and signage plan.