

City of Capitola

Commission on the Environment Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 21, 2023– 6:00 PM



Capitola City Hall, Community Room
420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Chair: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law
Vice Chair: Jason Shepardson
Council Member: Mayor Margaux Keiser
Commissioners: Anthony Lacenere, Peter Wilk

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Michelle Beritzhoff-Law, Anthony Lacenere, Jason Shepardson, Peter Wilk
Mayor Keiser was absent from the meeting.
City Staff Present: Erika Senyk, Jessica Kahn

Chair Beritzhoff-Law called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

2. Oral and Written Communications

Written communications received from Council Member Pederson expressing concern regarding pigeon droppings from the Capitola Wharf and the risk this poses to the environment. It was mentioned that City of Santa Cruz puts netting under the Santa Cruz Wharf to prevent pigeons from congregating there and requested that this technique be taken into consideration for the new Capitola Wharf construction plans.

3. Consider the minutes from the May 17, 2023, Commission on the Environment Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes: Commissioner Wilk
Seconded: Vice Chair Shepardson
Motion passed 4-0-1 (Mayor Keiser Absent)

Commissioner Wilk left the meeting at 6:14pm, prior to the Brown Act and PRA training.

4. General Business

- A. Brown Act and Public Records Act Training by Tamar M. Burke, Assistant City Attorney**
The Commission received a presentation and training regarding the Brown Act and Public Records Act by the Assistant City Attorney.
- B. ~~Use of Green Building Funds~~ (This item was pulled from the agenda by staff. Item was not discussed and will be continued to a future meeting).**
- C. Rispin Riparian Invasive Plant Species Removal**
The Commission requested to move the discussion about George McMenemy's proposal for removing and controlling invasive plant species in Rispin Riparian Areas to a future meeting.
- D. ~~Use of Community Tree and Forest Management Account~~ (This item was pulled from the agenda by staff. Item was not discussed and will be continued to a future meeting).**

E. Save our Shores and City of Capitola draft contract for quarterly beach cleanups

The Commission requested to move the discussion about the Save our Shores and City of Capitola draft contract to a future meeting.

F. Green Business Network presentation opportunity for future COE meeting

The Commission selected the August 16, 2023 regular Commission on the Environment meeting date as an acceptable date to receive a presentation from a Green Business Network (GBN) representative. The Commission requested that city staff work with the GBN representative to schedule the presentation for a future COE meeting, excluding the July 19, 2023 meeting date.

5. Items for Future Agenda

The Commission requested that the following items be agendized for a future meeting:

- Summary of Green Building Funds and Community Tree and Forest Management Account
- Reassessment of Commission on the Environment goals for 2023
- After action review of leaflet distribution for the Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA) Riparian Vegetation Planting Reimbursement Program

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm to the next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment on July 19, 2023.