

City of Capitola Commission on the Environment Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, July 19, 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, and Jason Shepardson
Mayor Keiser and Peter Wilk were absent from the meeting.
City Staff Present: Erika Senyk, Jessica Kahn

Chair Beritzhoff-Law called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. Oral and Written Communications

Written communications received from Council Member Brooks requesting that the Commission discuss a community tree giveaway event organized by City staff.

4. Consider the minutes from the June 21, 2023, Commission on the Environment Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes: Chair Beritzhoff-Law
Seconded: Vice Chair Shepardson
Motion passed 3-0-2 (Mayor Keiser and Commissioner Wilk Absent)

5. General Business

A. 2023 Commission Goals and Priorities

Recommended Action: Consider the Commission's goals and priorities for the remainder of 2023.

Environmental Projects Manager, Erika Senyk, presented the staff report.

The Commission discussed goals and priorities for the remainder of 2023 including reviewing the City's Climate Action Plan and preparing recommendations to present to City Council in January of 2024 at the Mid-Year Budget Report meeting. The Commission considered uses for the Community Tree fund including hosting a community tree giveaway and updating the City's tree ordinance. The Commission considered using Green Building funds to enforce

Green Building Codes within the City.

The Commission requested that a Green Business Network (GBN) impact report be provided by City Staff prior to the GBN presentation at a following regular Commission meeting.

Motion to have the Green Business Network come to the September Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment with a 15-minute presentation and to focus on the value of the certification program to the City and Capitola businesses: Chair Beritzhoff-Law

Seconded: Commissioner Lacenere

Motion passed 3-0-2 (Mayor Keiser and Commissioner Wilk Absent)

Motion for the Commission to first prioritize reviewing the City's Climate Action Plan and prepare recommendations to be provided to City Council, prior to the Mid-Year Budget Report meeting, and to secondarily prioritize assessing the use of Community Tree funds to support the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway event: Chair Beritzhoff-Law

Seconded: Commissioner Lacenere

Motion passed 3-0-2 (Mayor Keiser and Commissioner Wilk Absent)

B. Save our Shores Beach Public Cleanup Contract

Recommended Action: Provide feedback on draft contract proposal between Save our Shores and City of Capitola for quarterly beach cleanups.

The Commission discussed the draft contract. The Commission found the trash data that Save our Shores would provide following quarterly Capitola beach cleanups warranted the cost of the annual contract and would be beneficial to the City's annual stormwater reporting purposes. The Commission did not have any suggested edits or revisions to the current draft contract between Save our Shores and City of Capitola for public beach cleanups.

6. Items for Future Agenda

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

- **August 16, 2023 Regular Meeting:** Discuss potential projects that support Climate Action Plan goals for the VMT and Transportation sector and the associated measures. Discuss using Community Tree funds to support an Arbor Day Foundation Tree Giveaway event.
- **September 20, 2023 Regular Meeting:** Discuss potential projects that support Climate Action Plan goals for the Residential and Non-Residential Energy sector and associated measures. Receive a 15-minute presentation from a Green Business Network representative.
- **October 18, 2023 Regular Meeting:** Discuss potential projects that support Climate Action Plan goals for the Water and Wastewater, Solid Waste, Parks, Open Space, and Agriculture, and Action and Implementation sectors and the associated measures.
- **November 15, 2023 Regular Meeting:** Review Climate Action Plan potential projects and recommendations to bring to City Council.
- **December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting:** Approve projects and recommendations to bring to City Council at the Mid-Year Budget Report meeting in January 2024.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm to the next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment on August 16, 2023.