

City of Capitola

Commission on the Environment Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 15, 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
Youth Member: Tucker Graessle

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.
Youth Members Present: Tucker Graessle
City Staff Present: Erika Senyk

Chair Beritzhoff-Law called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. Oral and Written Communications

No oral or written communications.

4. Consider the minutes from the August 16, 2023, Commission on the Environment Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes: Commissioner Wilk
Seconded: Commissioner Lacenere
Motion passed 4-0-1 (Mayor Keiser absent)

5. General Business

A. Climate Action Plan

Recommended Action: Review potential projects relating to the City's Climate Action Plan and consider recommendations to provide to the City Council.

The Commission reviewed prior feedback on the City's Climate Action Plan and finalized its recommended actions to City Council for all CAP sectors and associated measures. Chair Beritzhoff-Law agreed to provide a written summary of overarching CAP feedback prior to the next COE meeting.

B. Environmental Certifications

Recommended Action: Discuss promoting an individual environmental certification (e.g., Green Business Network) as part of the new Climate Action Plan.

Motion to remove Measure 7 of the Residential and Non-Residential Energy Sector (ENRG-7 Green Business Certification Program) of the Climate Action Plan and recommend replacing with a new ENRG-7 measure that enforces Capitola businesses to adopt practices that comply with current environmental regulations.

**Motion: Chair Beritzhoff-Law
Seconded: Vice Chair Shepardson
Motion passed 4-0-1 (Mayor Keiser absent)**

6. Items for Future Agenda

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

- **December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting:** Approve projects and recommendations to bring to City Council at the Mid-Year Budget Report meeting in January 2024.
- **Green Building Funds:** Discuss Green Building funds and potential recommended uses of the funds in support of the City's Climate Action Plan goals.
- **White Roof Rebate Program**
- **Plastic Pollution and Plastic Straws**
- **Commission on the Environment's Social Media Presence**
- **Soquel Creek and Noble Gulch Maintenance Plan and Funding Opportunities**
- **Maintenance along Cliff Drive and Potential Planting Project**

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm to the next Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Environment on December 20, 2023.