

**MINUTES**  
**Commission on the Environment**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**February 27, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioners Present: Cathlin Atchison, Jacques Bertrand, Michelle Beritzhoff-Law

Commissioners Absent: Peter Wilk

City Staff Present: Steve Jesberg, Danielle Uharriet

**WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The minutes of October 24, 2018 were approved

2. Introduction of new commissioner Michelle Beritzhoff-Law

Michelle Beritzhoff-Law commented that she is a Project Director at FishWise, developing and implementing sustainable seafood programs. Michelle has degrees in Aquatic Biology and Marine Science; and has worked for the fisheries in New Zealand.

3. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Cathlin Atchison was unanimously elected Chair (Bertrand/Beritzhoff-Law)

Michelle Beritzhoff-Law was unanimously elected Vice-Chair (Bertrand/Atchison)

4. Presentation – PureWater Soquel Project


Barbara Graves, community advocate and Dr. Tom LaHue, Soquel Creek Water District, President of the Board, presented a project overview of the PureWater Soquel groundwater replenishment and seawater intrusion prevention project. The project involves taking already treated municipal wastewater from the City of Santa Cruz, purifying it through advanced water purification methods, replenishing the basin through recharge wells, and creating a seawater barrier. The District has approved the EIR for the project and is moving forward seeking funding and finalizing the project details. Barbara Graves stated there is a goal of community advocates to organize a public forum of scientific experts to discuss the project. At the January 24, 2019 City Council meeting, the council supported the water district's grant application to help fund the project. Barbara Graves requested the Commission's support by endorsing the project. The Commission unanimously supported the PureWater Soquel Project.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- Native Milkweed Campaign
- Meeting schedule changes

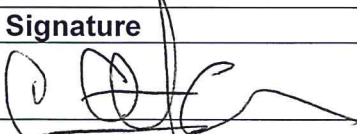



**ADJOURNMENT** to a Regular meeting on May 8, 2019

Approved at the meeting of May 8, 2019

  
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Danielle Uharriet  
Environmental Projects Manager

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT  
Sign in Sheet

Meeting Date: 2.27.19

Name	Signature
Cathlin Atchison	
Jacques Bertrand	
Michelle Beritzhoff-Law	
Meredith Keet	
Peter Wilk	
<u>Visitors</u>	<u>Affiliation/Interest</u>
Kailash Mozumder	
Meredith Keet	Meredith Keet