

**MINUTES**  
**Commission on the Environment**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 14, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioners Present: Cathlin Atchison, Meredith Keet, Peter Wilk, Bryce Ebrahimian  
Commissioners Absent: Jacques Bertrand, Michelle Beritzhoff-Law  
City Staff Present: Larry Laurent, Danielle Uharriet

**WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Staff suggested discussing work items to the end of the agenda.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The minutes of May 8, 2019 were approved (Keet/Wilk)
  
2. Introduction of new student commissioner Bryce Ebrahimian.  
Bryce commented he is a student at Monte Vista Christian, and currently working as an intern for Congressman Jimmy Panetta. Bryce became a member of the COE to contribute to the community by gaining a greater understanding of effectively managing a health and sustainability of the environment on a local level.
  
3. Discussion of the Single-Use Plastic and Paper Carryout Bag Reduction Ordinance and Environmentally Acceptable Packaging Materials Ordinance.

Larry Laurent, Assistant to the City Manager, provided the Commission with an overview of the city's ordinances and emphasized enforcement is done on a complaint basis; compliance is typically met by education rather than fines.

Peter Wilk and Meredith Keet agreed to review the city ordinances and draft a plan to increase enforcement efforts.

Bryce Ebrahimian suggested utilizing social media to communicate messaging about Wish-Cycling.

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA AND WORK PLAN STATUS**

♦ Soquel Creek/Peery Park Riparian Restoration

There are funds for proceeding with Phase 2 work in Peery Park. George McMenamin will be working with the restoration crew at the end of September through the beginning of October to continue invasive vegetation removal, erosion control installation and ongoing maintenance of the Phase 1 areas.

Future work in the area between Peery Park and Redtree riparian area will require a proposal from Mr. McMenamin, modification to the Fish & Wildlife permit and permission from Santa Cruz County Sanitation District.

♦ Native Milkweed Campaign/Monarch Protection and Preservation

Cathlin Atchison suggested the Commission review AB 2421 Wildlife Conservation Board: Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Rescue Program along with the grant program information. Staff recommended the COE identify a specific project that may meet the grant guidelines.

♦ Sustainability Guidance for Events in Capitola

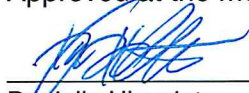
Staff requested the COE submit ideas on creating a guidance document for organizations/groups that put events on in Capitola regarding: reducing waste and reducing and eliminating single use plastics. Staff will draft a document for the COE for consideration at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- ♦ Climate Action Plan Assistance - review reduction measures for implementation
- ♦ Green Building Guidelines status update

In response to Peter Wilk's inquiry about the number of hits on the Environmentally Sustainable Living in Capitola website tab, there have been three (3) hits on the website tab over the past month.

**ADJOURNMENT** to a Regular meeting on November 13, 2019

Approved at the meeting of November 13, 2019



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Danielle Uharriet  
Environmental Projects Manager