

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND
ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, 2010 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Cunningham, Gobble, Griffiths, and Chairperson McCabe.

Absent: Commissioners Chim, Reilly, and Watson.

Also Present: Deputy Community Development Director Cessna and Senior Environmental Quality Officer Jones.

MOTION: Commissioner Griffiths moved to grant Commissioners Chim and Watson excused absences for the March 4, 2010 Commission meeting. Commissioner Gobble seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

It was noted that Commissioner Reilly was granted an excused absence for this meeting at the February 4, 2010 Commission meeting.

3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Griffiths.

4. POSTING OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Gobble, seconded by Commissioner Griffiths, moved to accept and file the report of the secretary on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6A. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2010

MOTION: Commissioner Gobble moved for the approval of the February 4, 2010, meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Griffiths seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Chim, Reilly, and Watson).

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

7A. ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

Deputy Director Cessna reported that Commissioners Reilly and Watson recently met with staff members to assist planning the March 27, 2010 Environmental Fair at

Madrona Marsh. She discussed publicity for the event that has included outreach at a women's seminar at the Marriot Hotel, fliers, and e-mails to last year's participants and mailing list from Wild Wednesdays! She stated that so far participants include Smart Car, Honda, electric vehicles, Tri-bred, green builder Fred Koch, Living Christmas Tree, South Bay Energy Savings Center, Torrance Transit, Rideshare, Recycling, Torrance Municipal Water, Water Replenishment District, and Torrance high schools. She requested that Commissioners discuss what they would like to do at the Commission's booth.

Ideas discussed for the event included providing a Green Pledge board, promoting the "lights out" Earth Hour on March 27, 2010, having a sign up sheet, distributing a survey to gather information on what people want the City to do, displaying a picture of the City's natural gas trash truck, and providing composting units for purchase. Give-away suggestions included LED penlights, Living Green buttons, seeds, and grocery bags. Commissioners were asked to submit additional suggestions to staff by March 11, 2010.

Deputy Director Cessna announced that the tree planting in honor of former Commissioner Jackie Decker will be at the Madrona Marsh on March 27, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Responding to Commissioner Gobble's inquiry, she advised that internal staff would be directing traffic this year, and that the outside lane would be blocked off to allow parking.

Deputy Director Cessna stated that the Commission booth would be in a different location than last year, but that set-up has not been finalized yet. She informed Commissioners that the Madrona Marsh Foundation plans to bring in a food booth.

Chairperson McCabe offered to send staff information about an exhibitor he spoke with who recycles foam, adding that the City now allows Styrofoam to be placed in recycling containers.

Senior Environmental Quality Officer Jones announced that some of the City's readerboards are promoting the Environmental Fair and that there is a banner on the Prairie Avenue overpass.

In response to Commissioner Griffiths' inquiry, Deputy Director Cessna stated that implementation of the green waste program is on hold.

Chairperson McCabe shared information about a Torrance Chamber of Commerce environmental luncheon on March 24, 2010.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATION

8A. Deputy Director Cessna discussed plans for the Energy workshop with the South Bay Energy Savings Center on March 15, 2010 in the Civic Center Library.

8B. Commissioner Gobble initiated a brief discussion regarding the joint meeting with City Council. Deputy Director Cessna stated that it would be in May or June 2010 after the carbon footprint report is completed. Possible topics for the agenda for the joint meeting were discussed and include multi-tenant and business recycling, green building, and Cool Cities.

MOTION: Commissioner Gobble moved to place an item on future Commission agendas to discuss the joint meeting with City Council. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Chim, Reilly, and Watson).

8C. In response to Chairperson McCabe's inquiry, staff stated that the RV habitation item would be coming back to the Commission in April or May 2010 and the feral cat issue would not be brought back before July 2010.

8D. Chairperson McCabe signed and read the solar recommendation going to City Council and suggested that the Daily Breeze be asked to report on it.

Commissioner Cunningham received clarification that solar water heaters are included in the recommendation.

8E. Commissioner Gobble stated that the City of Redondo Beach is changing out 1,300 to 1,800 street lights to LED and expressed hope that Torrance could do the same.

8F. Commissioner Cunningham suggested centralizing information on the City's website.

8G. Chairperson McCabe requested that leaf blowers and bike paths be placed on a future agenda.

8H. Responding to Commissioner Gobble's inquiry, Deputy Director Cessna stated that the number of dogs that can be walked at one time is not addressed in the Municipal Code.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:13 p.m., Commissioner Gobble moved to adjourn the meeting to April 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson McCabe so ordered.

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| Approved as Amended April 1, 2010 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk |
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