

**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, May 5, 2011 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Chim, Robbins, Watson, and Chairperson Reilly.

Absent: Commissioners Cunningham, Gobble, and Griffiths.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Robbins moved to grant Commissioners Cunningham, Gobble, and Griffiths excused absences for the May 5, 2011 Commission meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chairperson Reilly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. POSTING OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Watson, seconded by Commissioner Chim, 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

Ann Nelson, West Carson Street, expressed concern about air pollution caused by wood burning fireplaces, especially when residences are close together. She discussed Air Quality Management District's plans for "no burn" days starting in November 2011, with a total ban of wood burning fireplaces in 2014. She proposed that the City consider banning wood burning fireplaces, beginning with homes that are two on a lot.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6A. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2011

MOTION: Commissioner Chim moved for the approval of the February 3, 2011 Commission meeting minutes as submitted; Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. Commissioner Robbins abstained and the motion died due to lack of a quorum.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

7A. ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR WRAP UP

Commissioners and staff discussed the March 26, 2011 Environmental Fair at Madrona Marsh.

Deputy Director Cessna stated that there was less attendance and few vendors than in 2010, most likely due to rainy weather. She noted that staff received useful information and feedback from the approximately 850 people in attendance. She

informed the Commission that the next Environmental Fair will be combined with the City Yard Open House and Disaster Preparedness Fair in early June 2012, with subsequent Fairs planned for every other year. She noted that the City Yard is a huge area that will accommodate more attendees, speakers and vendors, with shuttle service planned from the Courthouse parking lot.

Commissioner Watson extended her appreciation to staff members for their efforts in making the Fair a success. She noted that there would be more physical space at the City Yard for demonstrations and speakers, perhaps in an open bay, and suggested "color coding" Environmental (green), Disaster (red) and City (blue) matters. She proposed recognizing service club volunteers for all their assistance at the Fair.

Deputy Director Cessna assured her that representatives from the service clubs would be recognized at a future Commission meeting as well as a City Council meeting.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8A. Deputy Director Cessna discussed the Centennial Committee's application for All American City.

8B. Deputy Director Cessna announced that Danny Santana would be discussing the Strategic Plan at the June Commission meeting and that Recycling Coordinator Sherman is tentatively scheduled for the July meeting.

8C. Commissioner Watson asked staff to bring back current regulations regarding wood burning fireplaces and fire pits.

8D. Commissioner Watson congratulated staff for the One Stop grand opening on May 2, 2011 and mentioned that Dave's Garage in Torrance was mentioned in the Easy Reader for hosting a candidate forum.

8E. Chairperson Reilly thanked staff for their hard work at the third annual Environmental Fair.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:37 p.m., Commissioner Watson moved to adjourn the meeting to June 2, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Robbins seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Reilly so ordered.

Approved as Submitted July 7, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
