

December 5, 2013

**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, December 5, 2013 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners Chim\*, Deemer, DeWitt, Gobble, Martin, Robbins, and Chairperson Griffiths.

Absent: None.

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

\*Commissioner Chim arrived at 7:10 p.m..

**3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Robbins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gobble, seconded by Commissioner Robbins, 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 NOVEMBER 7, 2013 COMMISSION MEETING**

Minutes were not available.

**7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

**7A. CITY YARD OPEN HOUSE AND ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR**

Deputy Director Cessna noted that her written report on the item was included in agenda packets. She led a discussion on plans for the next Environmental Fair on June 7, 2014 at the City Yard Open House and requested that Commissioners provide feedback as to what they would like to see at the Fair. She stated that they would probably be in the same general area as two years ago and that staff is trying to find a

way to locate speakers more effectively. She noted that they anticipate having fewer vendors this year as the Madrona Marsh Preserve is having an Earth Day event in April 2014 and encouraged Commissioners to participate at the event.

Commissioners and staff discussed give-aways and the consensus was to give out bagged ladybugs, insulated reusable grocery bags, and LED key chain penlights. Deputy Director Cessna stated that staff is working on ideas for this year's interactive component at the Commission booth such as a quiz as to what items on a table are recyclable or asking participants to fill out sticky notes with their environmental priorities.

She pointed out that staff would be making initial contact with vendors in January 2014 and noted that a list of 2012 Environmental Fair vendors was included in agenda materials. She asked Commissioners to review the list of previous vendors and offer their suggestions for any new vendors or exhibitors. She added that there would be a Honda electric vehicle and hopefully a demonstration charging station.

When Commissioner Robbins suggested having a greater presence from utility providers, Deputy Director Cessna responded that the Water Department would be there and that she would contact Southern California Edison and the Gas Company.

Commissioner Gobble suggested offering bags of compost from the City's green waste program, having vendors offering solar carports and transportation hubs, and promoting the Trash Free Tuesdays program.

Commissioner Deemer received clarification that the Sanitation District would be on the Public Works side and suggested having exhibits on natural gas, hydrogen fueling, and the Sea Lab Ocean Desalination demonstration project.

Commissioner Robbins suggested using the City's green buses to shuttle attendees from the Courthouse to the City Yard.

Commissioner Martin stated that Riviera Garden Club would probably enjoy participating and, in response to her inquiry, there was a brief discussion centered on pros and cons of having the Environmental Fair at the Madrona Marsh Preserve or City Yard.

Commissioner DeWitt stated that the goal is the increase input and the City Yard Open House would allow them to reach out to more people. In response to his inquiry, Deputy Director Cessna stated that wood chips and e-waste recycling would be available, probably at the Courthouse or City Hall.

Chairperson Griffiths stated that Dustin from the H.E.R.O. program might be interested in participating and suggested publicizing that Torrance waives permit fees for solar installation.

Commissioner Chim suggested selling compost bins and Deputy Director Cessna stated that she would check with Recycling Coordinator Sherman.

Jim Montgomery, Via El Chico, recommending have VOICE participate, giving away seed packets, and promoting the things that Torrance is doing, such as having community gardens.

**8. NEW BUSINESS/**  
**9. ORAL COMMUNICATION**

**9A.** Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Chairperson Griffiths for his eight years of leadership and dedication on the Commission and bid him a fond farewell.

**9B.** Commissioner Gobble announced that he has retired from Southern California Edison.

**9C.** Deputy Director Cessna stated that the Commission would be dark in January and that a new Chairperson would be elected at the February meeting.

**9D.** Deputy Director Cessna stated that the electric vehicle charging station item is going to City Council on January 14, 2014.

**9E.** In response to Commissioner Deemer's inquiry, Deputy Director Cessna informed him that oil well recertifications would take place in April or May, 2014.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:56 p.m., Commissioner Gobble moved to adjourn the meeting to February 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Robbins seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Griffiths so ordered.

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Approved as submitted February 6, 2014 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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