

**Natural Resources Commission Minutes**  
**September 21, 2020; 6:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Sarah Angulo, Courtney Doss, John Johnston, Richard McCann, Alan Pryor (arr 6:35), Hannah Safford

Commissioner(s) Absent: David Abramson

Council Liaison(s): Lucas Frerichs absent

Staff Present: Kerry Daane Loux, Sustainability Coordinator, Community Development & Sustainability

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1. **Call to Order:** 6:31 pm, by Chair H Safford
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Approved unanimously by commissioners present (Johnston/McCann 5-0)
3. **Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners and Liaisons**  
G Miller announced that he was resigning from the NRC, effective immediately, due to the demands of his research, time capacity and Davis residency requirements. The commission thanked him and acknowledged his service since January 2019.
4. **Public Comment**  
None
5. **Consent Calendar** –  
**A. August 24, 2020 NRC Meeting Minutes** Approved unanimously (Pryor/Safford 6-0)
6. **Regular Items**  
**A. Yolo Food Bank Informational Presentation**

Michael Bisch, Director of the Yolo Food Bank, provided an informational presentation on the overall operations of the Yolo Food Bank and specifically, food recovery actions in response to SB 1383, for commission review and recommendations. The Food Bank’s mission is to fight against hunger and poverty and to be an advocate for environmental and sustainability responsibility and resilience. A key factor in food recovery is to determine the quantity of food not being rescued, and that data is not currently fully available. William Schoen, community member and consultant to the Yolo Food Bank, noted that SB 1383 provides an opportunity to address a food security plan for Davis. M Bisch noted that the objective of this presentation is to put the issue on the NRC’s radar and that a robust response to SB 1383 is necessary.

Public comment—None.

In commission discussion, various commissioners noted that this topic integrates the subject areas of a number of key commissions, including Social Services, Utilities, and Natural Resources Commissions, and yet the options for responses or recommendations to staff and City Council related to SB 1383 are not clear. M Bisch offered to provide a written statement or memo to the NRC outlining the possible recommendations the NRC could consider.

**B. Leaf Blower Recommendations**

Hannah Safford provided information related to outcomes from the 9/15/2020 Leaf Blower item on the City Council agenda. H Safford and C Doss will form a short-term subcommittee to work with staff to address a longer-term leaf blower ordinance.

Public comment—None.

**C. Sustainable Food Recommendations**

The commission reviewed the previous recommendations from the subcommittee, and noted that J Johnston had provided additional comments on the draft document. The subcommittee will address previous comments by the commission and bring an updated memo back in October.

Public comment—None.

**D. NRC Goals, Priorities and Structure Discussion**

The commission discussed the following priorities, actions and subcommittee formation, given that all annual subcommittees had been disbanded in a previous commission motion:

- Sustainable Foods—Motion to establish subcommittee, based on previously completed work, to include S Angulo, D Abramson, and R McCann, passed unanimously (Safford/McCann).
- Leaf Blowers—as previously noted in the meeting, Safford and Doss will form the subcommittee to work with staff, and bring back an update in October.
- Sustainability Guidelines for New Development Projects—this proposed subcommittee will be put on hold at this time. In the future, it was noted that these recommendations can build on the Nishi Sustainability Implementation Plan (SIP), and will address consistency of sustainability issues for new projects that are not already addressed in other ordinances such as reach codes, solar requirements, etc.
- Cool Parking Lot recommendations from NRC—the most recent action was an email response to the recommendations from the Tree Commission, which the Chair forwarded to the full commission. Additionally, city staff is working with a consultant to update the Tree Preservation ordinance, which may include some of the information related to greenhouse gas and urban heat island reduction, supporting both tree shade and solar canopy shade in parking lots, maintenance and monitoring, and other information provided by the NRC recommendations. Johnston, McCann and Safford will provide more information on the status at the next meeting.
- Organics Facility—the NRC wants to stay informed about the status of the city’s and consultant’s work on this. No subcommittee formed at this time.
- Single use plastics—A Pryor will talk to Californians Against Waste and report at the November meeting. No subcommittee formed at this time.
- Sustainability Impacts in Staff Report Templates—the NRC made a recommendation to City Council. H Safford and J Johnston will discuss status with liaisons L Frerichs and G Partida.
- Food Waste and SB 1383—D Abramson, C Doss and A Pryor will form the subcommittee to address any evolving issues.
- Green waste pickup (LITS)—J Johnston will follow up with Utilities Commission to identify how the two commissions can work together, and C Doss will participate in next steps.
- Woodsmoke—staff will follow up with sending out the 2019 press release again, and with getting an annual report from the Police Department

**7. Commission and Staff Communications**

A. Long-range Calendar—Staff will incorporate the above priorities into the LRC.

B. Communications and Upcoming Meeting Items / Events

J Johnston noted that Cool Davis’ ‘Driving on Sunshine’ events, addressing solar and electric vehicles, will occur from September 26 to October 4.

R McCann noted that the Rotary Octoberfest on October 3 will feature vegan sausages that can be picked up at Sudwerks.

**8. Adjourn: 9:56 p.m.**