

Natural Resources Commission Minutes
February 27, 2017

Present: Mark Braly, John Johnston, Anya McCann (Alt), Michelle Millet,
Alan Pryor, Steven Westhoff

Absent: Patrick Henderson
Staff: Mitch Sears, Sustainability Manager

Council Liaison: Rochelle Swanson

1. **Approval of Agenda** – Approved unanimously with minor corrections.
2. **Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons** – Commissioner Pryor announced a public forum on Cap and Trade on March 2nd hosted by the Sierra Club.
3. **Public Communications** – none.
4. **Consent Calendar** – Approved: (A) Sterling Apartments Project Draft Sustainability Plan Information Item; (B) Review of final draft RFP for organics handling/processing studies (7-0; moved by Pryor, seconded by Johnston).

5. **Regular Items**

a) **Subcommittee reports**

- i. **Hazardous Waste Subcommittee – Initial report and recommendations for pesticide use in the City.** The report recommendations and next steps were summarized by the Subcommittee. The Commission discussed Section 7 of the report (recommendations), including where the IPM Coordinator position is located within the City organizational structure, differentiation of areas where herbicides are applied (e.g. parks v. waste water treatment plant), what was the public outreach process, economic impacts, and if rodenticides are addressed. The Commission also discussed next steps outlined in Section 8 of the report.

Following discussion, on a motion by Pryor, seconded by, Braly, the Commission accepted the Subcommittee report and approved forwarding the report to the Open Space and Habitation Commission and the Recreation and Parks Commission for review and comment.

Motion passed 7-0.

- ii. **Energy Subcommittee – Options for energy efficiency in new and existing structures.** The draft Subcommittee report was summarized by the Subcommittee. The Commission discussed the benefits and challenges associated with voluntary and mandatory programs and the importance of addressing the rental housing stock in a community like Davis. The Commission also discussed existing program models in Berkeley and Boulder and the need for results to be measureable. Following discussion, the Commission directed the Subcommittee to return to the Commission at a subsequent meeting with recommendations.
- b) **West Davis Active Adult Community – Project Introduction.** The project proponent provided a detailed summary of the proposed project and its draft sustainability measures. The project proponent responded to Commission questions and emphasized the housing niche being filled by the proposed project. Community member Eileen Samitz summarized her letter commenting on the proposed project expressing concern regarding the project and review process. The letter will be forwarded to the Commission. Following discussion, staff summarized future steps in the project review process, including review of environmental documents by the Commission later in 2017.
- c) **Water Conservation Program Update** – Brief update provided on water use in the City. The Commission noted that a 20% conservation rate is a base assumption in the surface water project.

d) **Subcommittee Updates –**

- Water – No update.
- Energy – See item 5a.ii above. Asked staff to bring back non-residential solar ordinance as previously proposed.
- Solid Waste – Requested status update on compostable ordinance. Set to be considered by City Council in April.
- Haz Mat – See item 5a.i above.
- GHG – The Subcommittee asked staff for a progress update on development of non-residential development GHG standards. Staff summarized current activity including submission of a grant proposal to develop long-term standards and update the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. The Subcommittee asked staff to consider development of an interim GHG standard.
- Environmental Recognition Awards – Subcommittee will meet with staff to consider nominations and provide recommendations at the March NRC meeting.

6. **Commission and Staff Communications**

- a) **Long Range Calendar/Future Agenda Items.** Reviewed
- b) **Upcoming meeting items/events.** Next regular meeting March 27, 2017.

7. **Adjourn:** 10:15 p.m.