

CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – January 25, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01p.m. Present at the time of roll call were: Commissioner Rona Bortz, Commissioner Casey Law, Commissioner Bill Kelly, Commissioner Michael Siegel, and Chair Amy Jones. Commissioner Michelle Hammond had an excused absence. Mayor Michael Cacciotti was present. Staff present: Ted Gerber, Public Works Director; and Arpy Kasparian, Environmental Services & Sustainability Manager.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1) Public Comments

There were no general public comments.

ACTION ITEMS:

2) Approval of Minutes - Meeting of December 6, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KELLY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LAW, MOTION CARRIED 5-0, TO APPROVE MINUTES

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

3) Annual Report 2021

Kasparian asked the commission for assistance in completing the Annual Report. Chair Jones volunteered to complete a message to be included in the report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

4) Strategic Plan Review and Development of 2022 Work Plan

Gerber discussed the commission analysis and possible changes to the development of the Work Plan and its alignment with the City's Strategic Plan. Gerber reviewed the actions and goals of the Strategic Plan that would tie into the commission's work plan. The commissioners discussed what they would like to see in the upcoming work plan and expressed desire to go beyond the strategic plan to include items such as water conservation and education and plastic reduction.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

5) Selection of Officers

Gerber recommended that the commission postpone the selection of officers in the event that the commission analysis changes the structure of the commission. The commission agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

6) SB1383 & Food Scrap Collection Update

Kasparian provided the commission with an update on the progress of SB1383 implementation. Commissioner Kelly provided an update on the options the Athens' Ad Hoc Committee is discussing. Kasparian informed the commission of staff's pursuit of a grant to assist with SB1383 implementation and provided information on the residential food scrap collection program in the City. The commission asked questions and discussed several aspects of SB1383 implementation including collection, reporting, SB619, and education & outreach.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

COMMUNICATIONS:

7) City Council Liaison Communications

Mayor Cacciotti updated the commission on the meetings he attended and elaborated on the commission analysis. He shared new practices he will be implementing as mayor.

8) Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Bortz had no comments. Commissioner Kelly updated the commission on the Leased Facilities Ad Hoc Committee and requested a presentation on the Arroyo stormwater projects. Commissioner Siegel had no comments. Commissioner Law updated the commission on City plans for heat emergencies and encouraged the involvement of a CERT group in the City. Chair Jones shared support for Commissioner Kelly's request for a presentation on stormwater projects.

9) Staff Liaison Communications

Kasparian reminded the commission of the commission survey and workshop and informed them that staff will be recommending City Council to upgrade the commercial default power service from 50% clean energy to 100% green energy. Gerber provided additional updates on the City's electrification projects and on the Arroyo Seco project.

10) Upcoming Events

- Nature Park Volunteer Day – Feb. 19, 2022
- LA County Smart Gardening Webinars – Various dates
(<https://www.ladpw.org/epd/sg/webinars.cfm>)
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars – Various dates
(<https://greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation>)

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Jones adjourned the meeting at 8:27p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were adopted by the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission of the City of South Pasadena at a meeting held on February 22, 2022.



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Amy Jones, Chair