

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES – October 26, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:04p.m. Present at the time of roll call were: Commissioner Rona Bortz, Commissioner Casey Law, Commissioner Bill Kelly, Commissioner Michael Siegel, Vice Chair Madeline Di Giorgi, and Chair Amy Jones. Commissioner Michelle Hammond and Mayor Pro Tem Michael Cacciotti were absent. Staff present: Ted Gerber, Acting Public Works Director, and Arpy Kasparian, Water Conservation and Sustainability Analyst.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1) Public Comments

Hugh Davis – expressed his dismay over the deterioration of the trees and vegetation in the City.

ACTION ITEMS:

5) Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance Recommendation

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

Acting Public Works Director, Ted Gerber, reviewed the draft Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance which was revised from the previous NREC meeting per the commissioners' discussion and comments. Per the commission's discussion, staff evaluated the ordinance to eliminate self-hauling restrictions and revised the ordinance to clarify how remote monitoring would take place. The commission had no questions or comments on the revised ordinance.

MOTION BY VICE CHAIR DI GIORGI, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KELLY, MOTION CARRIED 6-0, TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT ORDINANCE

6) Approval of Minutes- Meeting of September 28, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SIEGEL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BORTZ, MOTION CARRIED 6-0, TO APPROVE MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS:

7) City Council Liaison Communications

Mayor Pro Tem M. Cacciotti was absent.

8) Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Kelly had no comments. Commissioner Bortz had no comments. Vice Chair Di Giorgi announced her resignation from the commission due to her moving out of the City. She thanked her fellow commissioners and staff. Commissioner Law shared about a series of articles documenting health issues related to heat emergencies and would like to continue to advocate for actions the City can take to prepare for heat emergencies. Commissioner Siegel had no comments. Chair Jones shared about a local

organization that also advocates for heat emergency preparation. She also thanked Vice Chair Di Giorgi for her years of service on the commission.

9) Staff Liaison Communications

Kasparian announced the upcoming events including the Electrify Your Lawn event to kick off the gas-powered leaf blower ban. Kasparian thanked Vice Chair Di Giorgi for her work and impact on the City. Gerber provided an update on the Athens' Ad Hoc Committee and the initial proposed rates for different service levels.

10) Upcoming Events

- Electrify Your Lawn & Community Bike Ride – November 6
- CA Native Plant Sale – November 6
- Water Efficient Landscape Dual Certification Program – begins November 16
- 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 7:52p.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 December 6, 2021.


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Bill Kelly, Commissioner