

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES – December 10, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:47p.m. Present were: Madeline Di Giorgi, Rona Bortz, Bill Kelly, Cynthia Liu, and Lauren Myles. Stephen Leider and Amy Jones had excused absences. Council Liaison Dr. Marina Khubesrian was present. Staff present: Julian Lee, Deputy Public Works Director and Arpy Kasparian, Water Conservation & Sustainability Analyst.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS:

1) Approval of Minutes – Meeting of October 22, 2019

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BORTZ, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MYLES, CARRIED 5-0 to approve minutes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2) NREC Annual Report Review

Chair Di Giorgi went through the accomplishments in the Annual Report. A request was made to update the film screening event to include a guest speaker and number of attendees. Commissioners has no other changes or additions for the annual report.

3) NREC 2020 Work Plan Review

Kasparian went through the 2020 Work Plan. Commissioners reviewed the plan and had no comments or requests to make any changes.

4) Earth Day 2020 in South Pasadena Discussion

Kasparian explained the programs and activities that she hoped the City could put together for Earth Day. Already scheduled is the Garden Tour for April 18th and tentatively scheduled is an MWELo workshop on April 28th which is also the day of the NREC meeting. Discussion ensued and commissioners suggested additional activities such as Repair Café, a meatless Monday campaign, education on the history of Earth Day, a City Council Proclamation, a list of 50 eco-tips, and tree plantings. The Commission also suggested partnering with the Youth Commission and senior citizens to create an intergenerational effort and a symbolic passing of the torch. It might be possible to encourage local schools to offer extra credit or community service hours for students who participate in Earth Day activities. Lastly, because April is a busy month in South Pasadena, it was suggested that Earth Day activities kick-off early in the month.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tucker Nelson – Resident – Requested that advertisement for these types of events be printed and provided at the Senior Center as they do not receive much information electronically. She also suggested advertising using a banner on Fair Oaks.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5) City Council Liaison Communications

Khubesrian congratulated the NREC for a successful year and stated that she requested to remain the Council Liaison for 2020. She hopes to continue educational outreach on mosquito prevention in the coming year.

6) Commissioner Communications

The commissioners expressed their excitement for the next year, wished each other happy holidays, and thanked Council Liaison Khubesrian for her outstanding support. Chair Di Giorgi thanked everyone for their hard work throughout the year and expressed her joy serving as Chair. Commissioner Liu announced a video contest for middle and high school students.

7) Staff Liaison Communications

Kasparian announced that the South Pasadena Green Action Plan was approved unanimously by City Council on November 20, 2019 and gave an update on the progress of the Climate Action Plan and the Champions of West Nile Virus Prevention Challenge. She announced that Commissioners Jones and Myles will be ending their terms at the end of the year and explained the process for new commissioners and chair/vice chair. Kasparian thanked the commissioners and Council Liaison Khubesrian for their hard work, commitment, and inspiration.

8) Upcoming Events

- Free Smart Gardening/Intro to Composting Workshop – 2/8/20 (South Pasadena Library)

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DI GIORGI, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MYLES, CARREID 5-0, to adjourn meeting at 8:45p.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 January 28, 2019.


Madeline DiGiorgi, Chair