

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES – August 24, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:03p.m. Present at the time of roll call were: Commissioner Casey Law, Commissioner Michael Siegel, Commissioner Bill Kelly, Commissioner Rona Bortz, Chair Amy Jones, and Mayor Pro Tem Michael Cacciotti. Commissioner Michelle Hammond and Vice Chair Di Giorgi had excused absences. Staff present: Ted Gerber, Deputy Public Works Director, and Arpy Kasparian, Water Conservation and Sustainability Analyst.

1) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

2) Draft 2020 Urban Water Management Plan

Deputy Director, Ted Gerber, presented the Draft 2020 Urban Water Management Plan to the commission for review. The plan is developed every five years and evaluates the City's water supply for the next 25 years. South Pasadena has met and exceeded water conservation plans over the past five years. Gerber answered questions from the commissioners regarding water supply, water sources, projected rainfall/drought, conservation efforts, etc.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

ACTION ITEMS:

3) Recommendation of Waste Hauling Service Level

Sustainability Analyst, Arpy Kasparian, presented the Athens Ad Hoc Committee's request for a recommendation of a waste hauling service level: to either continue with the current backyard service or to switch to a curbside service level. Kasparian summarized the differences between the service levels and Commissioner Kelly commented on behalf of the Athens Ad Hoc Committee. The commission discussed the options and ultimately concluded to recommend the curbside service level based on the potential financial and environmental benefits. The commission also discussed the potential rates for the City's Hard-to-Service Areas and requests to be consulted again once the rates have been provided by Athens Services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SIEGEL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BORTZ, MOTION CARRIED 5-0, TO RECOMMEND THE CURBSIDE 3-BARREL WASTE SERVICE LEVEL

4) Approval of Minutes- Meeting of July 27, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

5) City Council Liaison Communications

Mayor Pro Tem M. Cacciotti left the meeting at 7:12pm.

6) Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Kelly had no comments. Commissioner Bortz had no comments. Commissioner Law provided an update on preparations for extreme heat events. The City will be updating its Emergency Operations Plan within the next few months and will include the NREC to participate. Commissioner Siegel had no comments. Chair Jones shared that LA County will be doing a Parks Assessment and encouraged commissioners to participate.

7) Staff Liaison Communications

Kasparian updated the commission on the gas-powered leaf blower ordinance and the accompanying outreach plan including an upcoming webinar and electric leaf blower demonstration. Gerber provided additional updates on the upgraded leaf blower ordinance.


8) Upcoming Events

- Transitioning to Electric Landscaping Equipment – Webinar – 8/26/21
- 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 8:14p.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 September 28, 2021.



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Amy Jones, Chair